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首席女法医穿越古代 再現浪漫版【CSI犯罪現場調查】

案情環環相扣 感情似水纏綿

國府書院才女 國語“懸案三部曲”開篇力作

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# Chapter 1

## Chapter 1: Prologue — A mistaken marriage match: Record of washed grievances by Qian Lu (错嫁良缘之洗冤录, 浅绿)

[March 15, 2015](#) by [inno 7 Comments](#)

### Chapter 1: Prologue

Tonight the moon is exceptionally bright, it is covered with a layer of bloody red clouds, originally it should make the moonlight elegant, tonight it unusually causes the moon to look grim and eerie, even the air also seems to smell faintly of blood, two o'clock in the evening it's unusually quiet, only the gentle sound of rustling leaves can be heard, no one cares about the night sky's strange appearance.

The room is bright, every kind of surgical instrument is readily available, however, this is not an operating room in the traditional sense.

The woman's face was mostly obscured by a mask, a pair of bright, piercing eyes was staring intently at a corpse lying on a white platform. Putting aside the measuring tape in her hand, the woman's cold voice resonated: "The victim was a female, height 168 cm, between the ages of twenty to thirty years old. The body has decomposed, the findings, she should have died a month or more ago."

Behind her stood a young girl, carefully taking notes, her hands not daring to be the least bit sloppy.

Scrutinizing each mark on the body, upon seeing the corpse's fingers, Zhuo Qing frowned, but her cold voice remained calm, "The deceased had all her ten fingernails removed."

"The ten nails were plucked again?" Xing Lan's hands paused, quickly looked up and asked, "Doctor Zhuo, this isn't a case of serial murders, right? Including this woman, this is already the fourth whose fingernails were pulled out!"

Zhuo Qing focused on inspecting the hands and did not answer, after a while, the cold voice just replied: "Whether serial murders or not, the Criminal

Investigation department will find it out, as a forensic examiner, my responsibility is to record in detail all the features on the body and determine the cause of death of the deceased, provide evidence and clues to help solve the case. Arbitrarily concluding as a serial case is a simple preconceived notion, ignoring the other details.”

“I know.” Xing Lan secretly bit her tongue, Doctor Zhuo in just a few years is the youngest, most prominent expert forensic examiner, to follow her around learning, she has really improved quickly, but her work constantly seeing cold faces and icy eyes, it’s rather scary!

“The deceased has distinct fingerprints bruises on her neck, color is black, the rest of her body has no obvious injury, the cause of death was asphyxiation. The genital area is intact, ruling out the possibility of sexual assault before her death.” While Zhuo Qing took off the surgical gloves, she said, “Xiao Xing, collate the data and submit the report to me before dawn for my signature, afterwards hand it over to the Criminal Investigation department, also the collected samples, send it to the laboratory tomorrow morning, you can then take a break.”

Xing Lan’s heart wailed, but on her mouth was not a trace of hesitation, immediately she replied: “Yes.” Another sleepless night!

Xing Lan cut out samples of clothes and skin from the deceased, suddenly she saw a palm-sized, round metal object, and asked: “Doctor Zhuo, this is something found in the coat of the deceased, should I hand this over to the Criminal Investigation department?”

Zhuo Qing casually glanced back and replied: “send it first to the laboratory, they’ll take care of it.” After she finished talking, she went out of the autopsy room.

“Yes.” Collecting her notes and the samples, Xing Lan quickly followed after Zhuo Qing who quickly left the autopsy room. Although she had been working in the forensic department for six months now, she still could not stay with a corpse alone late at night.

“How are things? Is the autopsy report ready to come out?” Just now as they were approaching the office, they were immediately stopped by somebody head

on! Leaning on the doorframe is a slim woman, her short cropped hair fresh and neat, her vitality abnormally high, the look in her eyes resolute!

Xing Lan cried out, "Team Leader Gu, you are too much! It's middle of the night, it's only 3:00 o'clock in the morning!"

Gu Yun lightly arched her eyebrow, smiled and said: "And so?"

Defeated, Xing Lan dropped her shoulders, reluctantly replied: "So you wait for a moment, I'll go and finish it, the report will certainly be out before dawn!" No wonder Team Leader Gu and Doctor Zhuo can become good friends, these two people are workaholics!

Looking at Xing Lan's drooping head as she entered her office, Gu Yun laughed, raised her voice said: "Thank you very much!"

Zhuo Qing opened her exclusive office on the opposite side, Gu Yun immediately followed her inside, before she could open her mouth, Zhuo Qing with her unique low voice unhurriedly said: "What, on this long night you're not in the mood to sleep ah?"

"Screw you!" Giving her a sideways glance, Gu Yun denounced: "Since this month's frequent homicide cases of women, Department Li's both eyes are almost shooting flames, at the moment criminal investigation department has two teams assigned to work day and night!"

Zhuo Qing casually pulled out the fountain pen which she used to fix her hair, immediately her waist-long hair dangled down, she tiredly sat on the couch, half-squinted her eyes as if she had something in mind, idly asked: "Yesterday, was there any thrill in the results of the provincial level martial arts competition?"

"No!" To bring up this subject she right away got angry, so many cases, yet department leader wanted her also to participate in the provincial competition, every year she's women's team number one, no one can be a match to her! Zhuo Qing looked comfortable and appeared to be falling asleep, Gu Yun lightly pat her shoulder, chuckled low: "May I say Miss High and Mighty, I'm here and you have a case to explain to me!"

Narrowing her eyes lightly, Zhuo Qing with her sluggish voice, yet always clear and cold, said: "This dead person and the first three murder cases indeed had

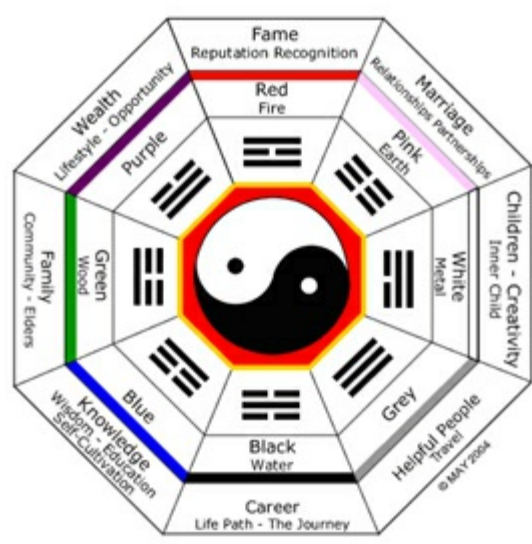
things in common, they were all strangled in the trachea and died of suffocation. Moreover, all the ten fingernails were removed. The murders were committed using the same technique, if indeed this is a serial murder case, according to the degree of decay of the corpses, this is the first female victim.”

Listening to the analysis of Zhuo Qing, Gu Yun was also walking back and forth in the office, pondering over the case, suddenly she noticed near the office door a faint gleam of light from an object, went over, picked up and examined it, indeed it is a small golden disk inlaid on one side with a trigram map, encased in an evidence bag, it must be part of the exhibits.

Walking over to Zhuo Qing, Gu Yun asked: “What’s this?”

Slowly opening her eyes to look at the object in the hands of Gu Yun, Zhuo Qing cursed, Xing Lan, this girl, always works so carelessly, to lose such an important exhibit!

Zhuo Qing sat up straight, replied: “It was found in the victim’s pocket, after waiting for colleagues in the laboratory department to examine it, it will be submitted to you.”



A trigram (bagua) map; photo from take5moment.com

Hearing that the object was part of the exhibits of the case at hand, Gu Yun immediately became animated, since the office was only lit with a small table lamp, Gu Yun just opened the blinds, taking advantage of the unusually bright moonlight tonight, she carefully scrutinized it. Eyes glued to the object in her hands, Gu Yun was completely oblivious to the dark night sky, when she put out

the trigram disk at that moment the moon was gradually shrouded with scarlet clouds.

Strange, just a moment ago the color was clearly golden, how come it looks red now?! Is the opposite side the golden one? Turning it over for a closer look, the other side has the same blood red trigram map, the entire small disk seems to glow a faint trace of red light, how is this possible?!

“Hiss -” While wondering, she suddenly felt pain in her hand.

Zhuo Qing got up, walked up behind her and asked: “What’s wrong?”

Lowering her head to examine her finger, she saw a deep bloodstain on her index finger, a few drops of red blood fell on the evidence bag, Gu Yun smiled indifferently, “Nothing, I don’t know what thing I’ve scratched.”

The cut on the finger was deep, blood still steadily dripping, Gu Yun’s indifferent look made Zhuo Qing frown, bringing absorbent cotton from the nearby shelf to cover the wound, Zhuo Qing coldly snorted: “Press the wound!” Gu Yun rolled her eyes, it’s just a little scratch!

Pressing the wound with cotton, it was quickly soaked with blood, Zhuo Qing’s keen eyes glinted, what is so sharp that could cut this way, even the bleeding is difficult to stop?! She took the object in Gu Yun’s hand, looked at it, Zhuo Qing with great alarm: “how could this be?!”

What made the always cold and arrogant Forensic Investigator Zhuo to be shocked ah! Gu Yun also curiously leaned her head, took a glance below, she was also startled and softly cried out: “Blood ... soaked in.”

Blood drops originally outside the transparent exhibit bag disappeared, the blood appeared unexpectedly above the blood red trigram map! How is there such a thing, the blood able to penetrate the exhibit bag ... !

“Oh, no!” After staring speechless at each other, both cried out in unison: “This time it will be difficult to write the report.”

The two looked at each other and grinned, it’s going to be a headache how to explain why Gu Yun’s blood appeared on the crime’s material evidence, in the meantime no one has noticed that the blood which dripped into the trigram disk seeped along the curved grooves, flowing into the yin and yang elements

intersecting in the center ...

When the blood fell into the center of the disk, at that exact moment, a strong red light suddenly radiated from the trigram disk, Zhuo Qing and Gu Yun were both shocked, before their own eyes they just saw darkness and fell gently to the ground.

Brilliant rays of light flashed in the chief forensic investigator's room, lit with only a small table lamp, two figures were lying unconscious on the floor.

The bleeding wound in Gu Yun's finger instantly healed, leaving no trace of a scar. The golden trigram disk fell lightly beside their bodies, showing nothing of its strange appearance before. Outside the window, on the horizon the moonlight was clear and bright, everything was so tranquil.

**[1]** The trigram (bagua) (Chinese: 八卦; literally: “eight symbols”) are 8 trigrams used in Taoist cosmology to represent the fundamental principles of reality, seen as a range of 8 interrelated concepts. Each consists of 3 lines, each line either “broken” or “unbroken,” representing yin or yang, respectively. Due to their tripartite structure, they are often referred to as “trigrams” in English. The trigrams have correspondences in astronomy, astrology, geography, geomancy, anatomy, the family, and elsewhere. Learn more about bagua maps [here](#). (Source: Wikipedia)

Tags: [A mistaken marriage match: Record of washed grievances](#), [C-Novel](#), [Chinese Novel](#), [Chinese Novel Translation](#), [错嫁良缘之洗冤录](#), [Novel Translations](#), [Qian Lu](#), [浅绿](#) | [Permalink](#).

## Chapter 2

### Chapter 2: Married off in the wrong body — A mistaken marriage match: Record of washed grievances by Qian Lu (错嫁良缘之洗冤录, 浅绿)

[March 15, 2015](#) by [inno 2 Comments](#)

#### Chapter 2: Married off in the wrong body

The heavy pouring rain was accompanied by rumbling thunderclaps, the strong wind blew the rickety, broken windows lurching unsteadily from side to side creating such a racket!

Inside a room in the side of a fairly ruined temple, three young women were huddled together, all wearing a red bridal dress, in this dark, gloomy place the stale air of the temple can be breathed everywhere, the scene looked particularly eerie.

The place had no lights, the occasional flashes of lightning illuminated the ruined temple, these sword-like lightning flashes, each lightning flash seemed to strike into the ground, giving off a glaring white light, the startling, deafening sound of accompanying thunderclaps, seemingly made the youngest girl cower in fear.

Tugging her elder sister's arm, Qing Mo, her head bowed, sobbingly asked: "Elder sister, what do we do now? I'm so scared!"

Lightning flashed one after another, eventually the faces of the women could be seen, the three are blooming beauties, each is elegant, absolutely their left faces are stunning which can make other women jealous, and men adore. Unfortunately, on their right cheeks, were slashed two deep knife marks, nearly destroying the entire right side of their faces, amidst the thunder and lightning in the night, the cuts looked quite grim.

Gently patting her little sister's shoulders, Qing Ling's face, looking extremely dejected, mumbled softly: "After crossing over this mountain, as soon as we're

out of the Hao Yue[1] kingdom, do we really have no way to free ourselves from this fate of becoming gifts?”

“I am not willing!” Her stubborn eyes stared unwaveringly at the ruined temple, outside thunder and lightning are accompanying each other, canopy of rain falling, Qing Feng tensely bit her lower lip the broken skin is almost bleeding.

Slowly lifting her head to lean on Qing Feng’s shoulder, Qing Mo wisely comforted her sister, whispered: “Second elder sister, do not be afraid, I heard that you’ll marry that Prime Minister Lou, he’s a rare, modest nobleman, both his political and military achievements, everything’s outstanding, he should not treat you unfairly.” Eldest sister is the most pitiful, to be sent to the emperor’s palace, it is said that the ruler of Qiong Yue[2] is temperamental, bloodthirsty and tyrannical, how will gentle, quiet and refined eldest sister bear it!

Qing Feng scoffed, “Who cares!” She turned around, one hand holding her elder sister’s hand, one hand holding the young girl’s hand, Qing Feng growled fiercely: “I quite hate it! Why should Qiong Yue country’s ruler in a word, at once can do whatever he pleases?! Why did the Qing family have to take responsibility for our king’s incompetence?! Why did he kill our parents, we even have to be bestowed as gifts, as his tribute to flatter Qiong Yue!”

Gently caressing the yelling Qing Feng, because of hatred her face became twisted, Qing Ling head bowed, sighed, said: “On the basis of Qiong Yue being the most powerful among the six countries, the other countries must submit, if the emperor says he wants this feudal official dead, this feudal official has no choice but to die! Who made us be merely several women who lack the strength to truss up a chicken!” (meaning, Who made us to be weak women!)

Fate never rests in their hands.

Shaking off Qing Ling’s hand, Qing Feng quickly got up, turned her back, unwilling to back down: “What can women do! I’m not going to Qiong Yue!”

Looking at her second elder sister’s stubborn back, seeing the eldest sister’s anxious face, Qing Mo timidly said: “Even these faces that everyone admires, we are already ruined, yet they still want to bring us to Qiong Yue! Second elder sister, we simply don’t have the means to change anything, right?”

Gently stroking her cheek, even now the pain remains, dwelling in her soul,

Qing Feng took a deep breath, clenched her teeth and replied: “Death, I, Qing Feng, absolutely will not let anyone manipulate me! Especially that person, that fatuous ruler whose hands are stained with the blood of father and mother!”

Qing Ling was startled, anxiously asked: “Feng Er[3], what do you want to do?”

Slowly turning around, Qing Feng clenched her hands into fists, firmly said: “Elder sister, I will stay in Hao Yue, to stay in the side of father and mother, even if what I have to leave behind, is my dead body!”

Dismissing Feng Er’s words as if they were ordinary, a mysterious white lightning striked down, the bright light shined on Feng Er’s face, Qing Ling saw her insistence and determination.

Tightly clutching the hands of Qing Feng, Qing Ling suddenly felt relieved, lightly laughed: “Yes! Elder sister will accompany you, anyway, to keep on living is already meaningless to me.” Not to think about everything to face in the future, perhaps it’s a kind of relief!

Crouching on the floor Qing Mo quickly jumped up, grabbed their hands, hurriedly said: “Whatever the elder sisters will do, I’ll do the same, Mo Er in any case, I’ll never leave you.”

Qing Ling hesitated, she lovingly looked at the face of innocent Mo Er, she probably does not understand the meaning of death, she’s only fifteen years old ah!

Meeting Mo Er’s pair of innocent, big eyes, Qing Feng felt pain as if a knife’s twisting in her heart, but the thought that she allegedly was promised to that one who is reportedly a notorious, callous butcher on the battlefield, Qing Feng immediately shivered, said: “Elder sister, Mo Er is so pure and kind, to keep her alone alive in this world, she also would just endure hardships, today we are in this dilapidated temple, the whole family will reunite, right?!”



The Qing sisters during one of their moments of happiness before tragedy struck in their lives

Watching three pairs of overlapping hands together, Qing Ling suddenly felt warm in her heart, as if to convince herself, Qing Ling forcibly nodded and said: “Yes! Best to have a family reunion!” The three people looked up and glanced at the top of the temple beams, with tacit understanding they looked at each other and laughed, this is after the death of their parents, their first laugh, because after today, they will not any more separate!

Loosening the red silk belts on their waists, stripping off the brilliant red gowns, their bodies wore only the plain white clothes underneath. They lightly tossed above the red silk bands, passing easily through the beam. Three people stood on the broken square table, wrapped their necks inside the red silk bands,

without hesitation.

Qing Ling looked around and glanced at her sisters on her side, closed her eyes, and whispered: “Feng Er, Mo Er, in the next life, we will also be sisters!”

“Ah.” Qing Feng, Qing Mo strongly nodded their heads!

Three people holding each other’s hands proceeded, kicked the square table lightly, the red silk bands suddenly tightened, three bright lives gradually passed away.

The soldiers who were escorting the Qing family sisters to Qiong Yue were resting in the main hall of the dilapidated temple, noticed the rain was beginning to stop, suddenly the rain gained momentum and poured heavily again, lightning and thunder increasingly became intense, as if crushing the already tottering ruined temple.

A young soldier withdrew and stretched his neck. Now it’s still spring, he has already seen so much, nevertheless he also has not experienced during spring in the whole land such a heavy rain! Voluntarily he took a quick look at the side hall of the temple where the Qing sisters were left to themselves, the scene he saw scared him half to death, under the white light of lightning flashes, three vertical shadows were dangling in the air, clothes sleeves fluttering! Shrieking strangely, the young soldier ran frantically to escape, stumbled and fell in front of Li Xu, crying out in alarm: “Ghosts! ... There were ghosts!”

“What!” Li Xu was startled, looking along the young soldier’s line of vision, the sight of three hovering shadows shocked him so much he broke out in cold sweat! The Qing family sisters hanged themselves up! Li Xu quickly got up and kicked the side door of the temple, he saw red clothes everywhere, and three pairs of bright red embroidered shoes dangling in front, the frightened Li Xu took a step back, frantically shouted: “Hurry up! Quickly, quickly get them down!”

The group of soldiers were running around in circles, and finally were able to bring down the three women, three bodies whose complexion have already turned black, both eyes tightly closed.

Li Xu staring at Qing Mo on his left side, anxiously asked: “How is she?”

The young soldier felt carefully with his hand for Qing Mo’s breath and replied:

“... She’s dead.”

Li Xu shuddered, pointing his hand to Qing Feng, urgently said: “This ... this one?”

After probing for signs of breathing he took back his hand, watching Senior Brother Li’s pale face, he got scared and did not dare answer, he just gently shook his head.

All dead?! Li Xu in cold sweat bravely straightened out his back, these Qing family sisters were chosen by the emperor of Qiong Yue himself as tribute candidates, now all at once they died this way! How could he live! Perhaps the country of Hao Yue is doomed!

Li Xu was in his moments of desperation, suddenly the young soldier cried out: “Senior Brother, the Qing family eldest daughter is still breathing!” Although very faint, but definitely she’s still alive.

“Really? Great! Get her on a fast carriage, quickly ask a doctor to treat her!”

Finally there is one alive. Li Xu commanded the soldiers, helter-skelter took hold of the bridal dress and draped over Qing Ling’s body, completely forgetting to mind the other two dead bodies on the ground.

Outside the ruined temple a peal of thunder can be heard, dazzling white light like sharp swords, the corpses on the ground looked even more alone and poor, the young soldier was frightened, but he cannot bear to look at the two pitiful dead women, picked up on the ground the bridal dresses and carefully covered their bodies. Just when he wanted to get up to leave, different from lightning a red light flashed past, two people on the ground who were no longer breathing suddenly opened their eyes ...

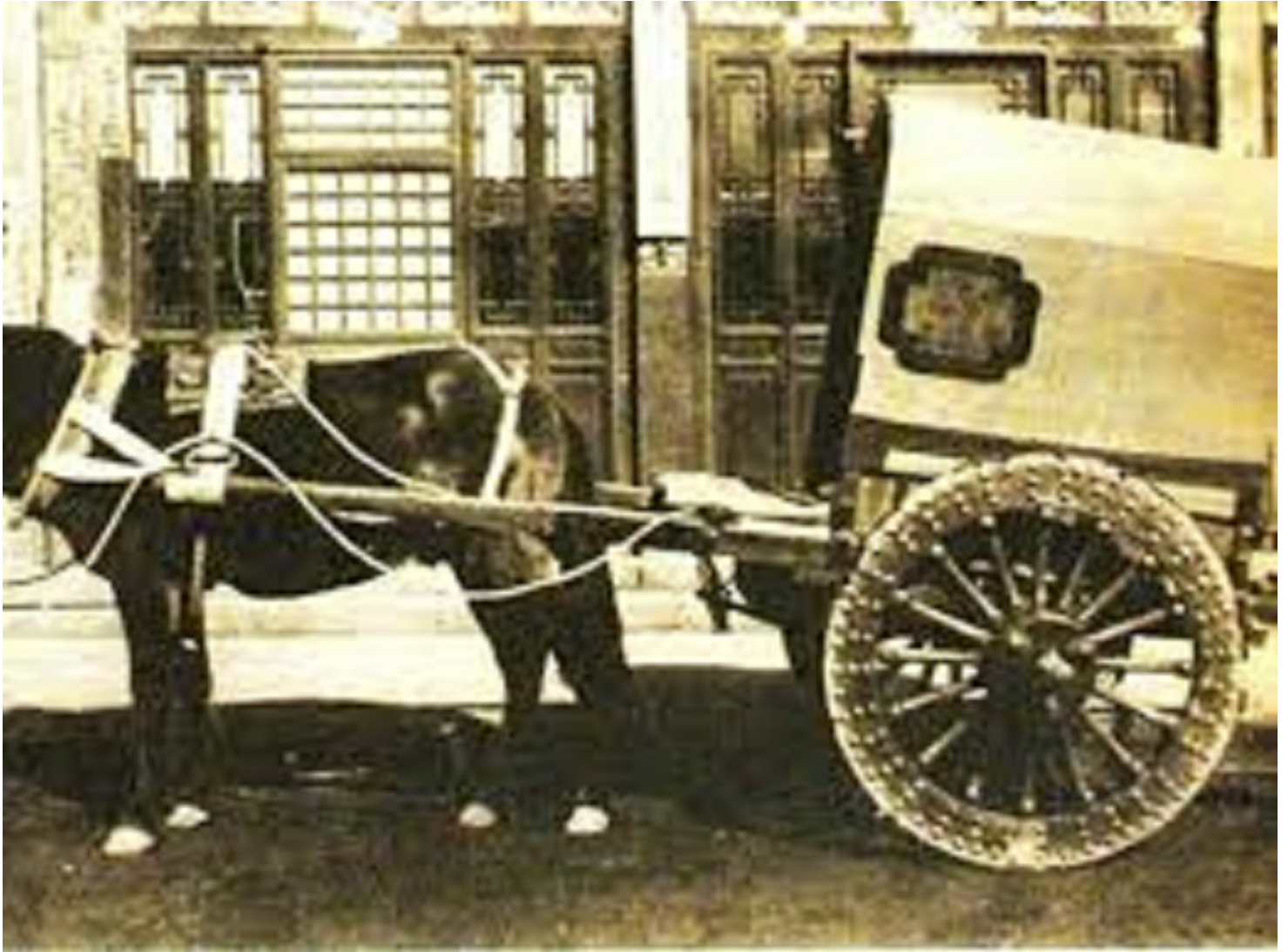
“Ah ...” His scream resounded through the ruined temple! Li Xu who was outside the main hall came impatiently, expelled his breath, said: “You again hollering, what now?!”

“She ... they ...” This time, the young soldier is speechless, he just distressedly crawled out of the temple side hall.

Two corpses of women scared and turned him into this way? Li Xu started to suspect, he entered the side hall again, he discovered the two women who just a

moment ago were still and motionless, their chests miraculously are faintly moving up and down, although their eyes are still tightly shut, their faces are not as blue and dark as before!

“It’s Heaven’s blessing, heaven’s blessing ah!” Li Xu is in ecstasy, they didn’t die! His life is at last saved! “Come, come, take them away!”



Rolling towards Qiong Yue where an uncertain fate awaits each of the Qing sisters  
(photo taken from [kaleidoscope.cultural-china.com](http://kaleidoscope.cultural-china.com))

Amidst wind and rain, the soldiers carried the two women out of the temple, went to the carriage where Qing Ling was, Li Xu suddenly exclaimed: “Wait.”

These three persons were disfigured and tried to commit suicide, this time they didn’t die, but it’s hard to tell what they’ll come up next! From here to Qiong Yue, is more than ten days travel too! In his heart Li Xu was planning,

keeping his voice down he said: “Put them separately, alone in each carriage, also they must not be allowed to meet again, their drinking water will be mixed with intoxicating drug, be sure to take them alive to the Qiong Yue country!”

“Yes.” The three were immediately crammed inside three carriages, before arriving Qiong Yue, they will have no opportunity to meet, but also no chance to run away from the carriages.

Qing sisters, do not blame me, blame yourselves, who let you look devastatingly beautiful, who let your talents be passionately compelling, who let you be famous in six countries. Qiong Yue country singled you out and demanded you to be their wives, not to mention your faces are disfigured, even to die, you too must die in Qiong Yue, your fates are inexorable!

**[1]** Hao Yue (皓月) means bright moon; the kingdom where the Qing sisters come from

**[2]** Qiong Yue (穹岳) means sky high mountain; the most dominant of the 6 kingdoms where the Qing sisters will be delivered to, as gifts or tributes by their own king to the emperor

**[3]** Er means child; In ancient China, “-er” was usually attached to the last character of a person’s name as an expression of affection. (Source: chenguangsorcharad.blogspot.com.au)

Tags: [A mistaken marriage match: Record of washed grievances](#), [C-Novel](#), [Chinese Novel](#), [Chinese Novel Translation](#), [错嫁良缘之洗冤录](#), [Novel Translations](#), [Qian Lu](#), [浅绿](#) | [Permalink](#).

## Chapter 3

### Chapter 3: Abduction — A mistaken marriage match: Record of washed grievances by Qian Lu (错嫁良缘之洗冤录, 浅绿)

[March 13, 2015](#) by [inno 34 Comments](#)

Hi guys! In the past few days I had been reading the first few chapters of book 1 of the AMMM series, which tells the story of Zhuo Qing, the forensic detective colleague-friend of Gu Yun. I find that reading her story as well enhances my reading *understanding of AGMC*. So, I'm sharing the edited paraphrased GT translations I've done so far. Again, read at your own risk. Haha., no guarantee at all of the translation's accuracy. Thanks to Summer, you can read the synopsis and review of the novel [here](#). Update of this book would not be as regular as AGMC, i.e., only when I have extra free time off AGMC. Gu Yun's story is my priority. After reading, please leave some comments. Tell me your first impression(s) of book 1. Should I or not continue?

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#### Chapter 3: Abduction

Early spring, the season of colors. The kingdom of Qiong Yue is thriving in prosperity, Huan Yang, its capital city is naturally impressive in all respects, even before entering the city, one can already hear the clamor inside the city which was bustling with noise and excitement, along the main road on both sides, there are many merchants and civilians busily entering and leaving the city of Huan Yang.

The cool breeze brushing softly the face, the song of the birds and the fragrant flowers, soon he will see the city gates of Huan Yang, Li Xu was both happy and fearful! Happy that after being on the run for more than ten days, encountering near misses, they are finally arriving; fearful because of the faces of the three ladies . . .

Inside the carriage, a slender arm is struggling to grasp the window frames which are not high, but unfortunately before it was able to reach them, it helplessly fell down.

Ah almost! Zhuo Qing once again tried to reach out her right hand, this time it was a little better, her fingers could touch the windowsill. Breathing deeply a few mouthfuls of air, Zhuo Qing shored up her body with as much strength left in her possible, it was a good toss, but she barely let herself sit up straight. The sweat on her forehead dripped to her cheeks, the pain caused by the wound on the right side of her face was terrible, but it also sobered up Zhuo Qing a bit.

She has been held in this small space for several days, and every day someone was feeding her with large amounts of sleep-inducing drug, a few days later, she pretended to be in deep coma, after pouring her with a few mouthfuls they had to give up. Her mind is now fairly clear, but her whole body is still limp.

Where is Gu Yun? After their office was attacked, were they taken away together, who are these people? What do they want? Why did they choose the carriage as a means of transport? Where is she right now? Zhuo Qing's ever shrewd mind is running fast, hoping to find some clues, but unfortunately her mind is filled with a bunch of questions.

The traveling carriage suddenly stopped, outside the carriage, a familiar male voice sounded somewhat obsequious and respectful, "my Lord, the three ladies of the Qing family have been delivered to you . . ."

She knew that voice, these days she often heard it in the carriage, he is the mastermind of the kidnapping. Outside the surroundings seemed a bit noisy, Zhuo Qing listened carefully, after a while, a slightly muffled male voice replied coldly: "The emperor has already passed an edict, the eldest young lady of the Qing family shall immediately enter the imperial palace, the second young lady shall be delivered to enter the Estate of Prime Minister Lou, the third young lady shall be delivered to enter the General Manor. Thanking Mister Li for your trouble, please reply!"

The emperor? The palace? Which country in the world is currently still practicing absolute monarchy? It turned out she had already been shipped out of China. She can glean from their conversation that she was kidnapped along with three other people, but where is Gu Yun? Zhuo Qing continued to eavesdrop with bated breath.

Outside the carriage, Li Xu immediately bowed and replied: "Many thanks to

Qiong Yue emperor's grace."

The ritual official did not bother looking at Li Xu, his gaze swept across the three horse-drawn carriages and asked: "Which carriage is carrying the eldest of the Qing family?"

Li Xu, pointing to the carriage in the middle, hurriedly replied: "That one."

Two men dressed in palace outfits rapidly approached the carriage, pulled the reins, and left together with the ritual official who said aloud, "back to the palace!"

A party of people entered the East Gate and went in slowly. Outside the city gates, there were two groups. Seeing the servants is knowing their masters, Li Xu, needed only a glance, already he knew, on his left donning a blue garment, refined and polite, must be the man from the Estate of the Prime Minister, on his right wearing a brilliant gray clothing, strong and tall build, of course, he must be from the General Manor.

Li Xu nodded politely, smiled and said: "The two misters, on this carriage is the second Qing young lady, on this carriage the third Qing young lady."

Two men stepped forward and each pulled a carriage, they faced Li Xu and after cupping their fists in obeisance, they respectively moved and left in opposite directions, one headed towards south, the other to the north.

After the three carriages were led away, a soldier whispered: "Master Li, what do we do now?"

Li Xu raised his whip, and shouted: "Go back to Hao Yue kingdom."

They did not even let them enter the imperial palace of Qiong Yue, without even one backward glance, they took second miss hastily away! But then on second thought, they are but from a small kingdom delivering over a few tributes, would they be welcomed grandly by the Qiong Yue kingdom, would a feast be hosted in honor of them? Li Xu looked back to the carriages gradually disappearing towards three directions, and heaved a sigh, "three young ladies, good luck to you."

The carriage quickly ran off again. Zhuo Qing leaned against the side of the carriage, slowly lifted the curtain, the bright sunshine made her instantly close

her eyes, it took a while to slowly adjust. Looking outside through the window, Zhuo Qing could not help but be surprised for a moment, this. . . where is this place?

How long has it been since she had seen such a clear blue sky, the air with a whiff of smell of green grass, towering trees lining on both sides of the road, each tree thick and lush. Looking towards the front of the carriage, Zhuo Qing was startled, ahead were four men wearing blue long gowns mounted on black, fine steeds, they have long hairs! And their outfits were too weird.

Looked down at herself wearing an ancient fire red wedding dress, Zhuo Qing felt somehow this matter does not seem to be a simple case of kidnapping. She reached out to touch her hair a bit, from a bun she gently pulled a strand, black hair? No, her hair is brown! And, not so long! Zhuo Qing who is always calm, suddenly her heart jolted, lifting her wide sleeves, on her right arm her skin is smooth as jade, her hands began to tremble uncontrollably, it is not her body! She has a ten-centimeter-long scar on her right arm!

What is going on?

Zhuo Qing's hand curled tightly into a fist, she must calm down in order to figure out what is actually happening!

Unfortunately, before Zhuo Qing could calm down, the carriage suddenly stopped abruptly, nearly dumping her out of the carriage. Out of the dense thickets on both sides of the road more than a hundred people suddenly hurtled out, all dressed in commoner's clothes, their ages range from young to old, they were all holding in their hands. . . poles and hoes!

Lan Ziqi gawked for a moment, they did not appear to be bandits, but he already unsheathed his sword slowly, his voice clear, he asked: "Who are you, people?"

Who knew, this crowd of people without any explanation, upon hearing a portly man in their midst who yelled, "Attack!", without any order or method whatsoever, a group of people suddenly swarmed around them, their single target is the carriage.

Lan Ziqi and the three other guards immediately drew out their swords to fight, but unfortunately they were too many, several men climbed up on the

carriage, whipping the horse to run, they saw the carriage escaped away, but, these people did not come to fight, everywhere and to all directions they dispersed and fled away. That portly man who just yelled “attack” ran all the way, all the while yelling: “Go back and tell Prime Minister Lou, if he wants his woman to be returned, let him come in person to the Niu Jia [cattle] village!”

If not for the couple of hoes thrown on the ground and left by some, the carriage out of sight, they could hardly believe the scene that had just taken place! It played out like a farce! The dumbfounded guard looked to Lan Ziqi, and asked: “what are we going to do now?”

“Go back and report it!” What else could be done! Lan Ziqi grimaced. He is just a lowly guard in the Estate of the Prime Minister, Chief Jing can be counted on to take care of the matter, let him come and take over, just before the capital who knew this incident could happen!

Running for more than half an hour later, the carriage finally stopped, outside there was a clamor. A moment later, a sonorous male voice politely shouted outside of the carriage: “Miss, please come out of the carriage.”

Zhuo Qing cursed under her breath, she’d like to come out of the carriage, but the problem is, her limbs right now are very weak, to sit up is even difficult, let alone come out of the carriage?

Nothing happened in the carriage for a long time, Wu Si waved to the big group of men behind, indicating that they should not make any noise, the person is a girl, if they’re so noisy he fears she might get frightened of them. Wu Si cleared his throat with a mild cough, deliberately he softened his voice, and whispered: “Miss, do not be afraid, we are not bad people! We just want to meet Prime Minister Lou that is why we got you. But, do not worry, we will not hurt you, after seeing Prime Minister Lou, we will let you go!”

Within the carriage there was still silence, the people in the group looked at each other, the lady did not faint, right?

Just when Wu Si didn’t know how to proceed, a cold female voice rang out from the carriage, “you’ve said enough, come in and help me.”

Tags: [A mistaken marriage match: Record of washed grievances](#), [C-Novel](#), [Chinese Novel](#), [Chinese Novel Translation](#), [错嫁良缘之洗冤录](#), [Novel](#)

[Translations](#), [Qian Lu](#), [浅绿](#) | [Permalink](#).

## Chapter 4

### Chapter 4: Appeal — A mistaken marriage match: Record of washed grievances by Qian Lu (错嫁良缘之洗冤录, 浅绿)

[March 15, 2015](#) by [inno 8 Comments](#)

#### Chapter 4: Appeal

“You’ve said enough, come in and help me.” Her muffled voice sounded cold, it made the people outside the carriage quiver, a lady speaks in this manner?

Wu Si scratched his head, he looked back towards the brothers behind him, everyone took a step back, pointing their chins towards him, urging him to help. Wu Si was afraid to go and do the bidding of a woman! Wu Si secretly swallowed a mouthful of saliva, stepped a foot onto the carriage, opened the curtain, and headed inside. Unexpectedly he encountered a pair of cold eyes, seeing the woman before him, Wu Si sucked in a mouthful of cold air.

Inside the carriage, a red-clad woman was half-leaning against the side of the carriage, her little eyes were straightly staring at him coldly. Wu Si had never before met a woman who has such eyes, a pair of eyes staring at him, making his breathing inexplicably difficult. And her face, two deep knife marks have ruined the entire right cheek, at first glance it is horrible to look at it, is this the beauty the Hao Yue kingdom sent? Wu Si wondered, they did not grab the wrong person, right?

When Wu Si was looking at Qing closely, Zhuo Qing was also watching him. The man in front of her is in his early thirties, his mop of unruly hair tied up with a strip of cloth, his clothes covered with many patches looked shabby, he’s dressed like . . . the ancients!

It’s all too weird! Quelling her uneasiness, Zhuo Qing stretched out her hand, grabbed Wu Si’s arm, leveraging against him to stand up. Unfortunately, motionless for too long, Zhuo Qing suddenly fell down, Wu Si rushed to hold her hand, this woman is really skinny!

Holding the leaning Zhuo Qing they went to the carriage's door, before opening the curtain of the carriage, Wu Si suddenly grabbed the canopy of the carriage and covered Zhuo Qing's face with it, only then did he lead her out.

Zhuo Qing walked limply, half leaning against Wu Si's arms, assisted by him she still could barely walk. The red wedding dress accentuated her slim figure, every step of the way she appeared infinitely delicate, the veil over her face, it was really beyond the people's imagination.

A teenage boy clucked his tongue and exclaimed: "Wow!" This Hao Yue kingdom woman is really made of water! Even the way she walks and how the village women walk are different ah!" Following the young man's jest, a group of people began to boo and heckle. Wu Si glared at the teenager, leading Zhuo Qing to sit down on a stone bench, for a time, she did not know what to say.

Xiao Wuzi took a step forward, pulled Wu Si to the side, smiled and said: "Elder brother Wu, I heard the Hao Yue kingdom specially sent a beauty, not only that, this lady they sent, she is famous in all kingdoms ah, anyway, since we have her already, as least let everyone see what she looks like, okay?"

"No!" Wu Si roared, and scolded, "We acted like that today only in order to seek justice for our benefactor, of course we were forced by circumstances to kidnap her, but if you do this, what makes you different from those villainous bandits?!"

Xiao Wuzi shrunk his neck, muttering to himself: "Elder brother Wu, we just want to take a look at the so-called alluring beauty that can ruin and overturn a kingdom, not taking a fancy to her!" Elder brother Wu is ordinarily a nice guy, what's up with him today?

Meeting the eyes of the baffled villagers, Wu Si also felt like he reacted excessively, whispering he urged them: "Even this is also not good!" Which woman will not pity her face, her face unknowingly ruined like that, to be seen by people, he fears she's going to be broken-hearted and sad.

"Elder brother Wu . . ." Xiao Wuzi was about to say something when a piece of red silk was neatly thrown to the ground. Xiao Wuzi turned around and a face full of knife marks greeted him, stunned he cried, "Wah! Oh my golly! This is the alluring beauty, eh!"

The curious villagers surrounding him were also shocked, for a time the crowd of people became quiet, they were literally stunned to silence. Zhuo Qing calmly stared back at their burning gazes, reflected in their eyes, was surprise, fear, sympathy, and pity, slightly raising her head, her eyes coldly scanned the crowd one by one, the villagers unconsciously stepped back. She thought, hostage-taking, after all, is something bad, but right now, this group of villagers looked very simple and honest.

Zhuo Qing slowly stilled her heart, and asked: "Who did you say I am just now?" This is not her body, she's figuring out now, who the hell is she?

Xiao Wuzi swallowed and replied: "You are the woman from the kingdom of Hao Yue, and a tribute to the emperor, but I heard the emperor bestowed you to the prime minister, but the way you are, I guess the prime minister would not want to have you!"

"Xiao Wuzi!" Wu Si immediately yelled.

Zhuo Qing's face was deadpan, she continued to ask: "what is this place?"

"This is the village of Niu Jia, ahead is Huan Yang, the capital city of Qiong Yue."

Qiong Yue? Huan Yang? It did not ring a bell! Taking a deep breath, Zhuo Qing looked at the crowd of people, her voice clear she asked: "Have you ever heard of China?"

Everyone reacted in unison, shaking his head.

They speak Chinese, dressed in ancient costumes, but do not know about China, as far as she knew, in the world where she lived there should not be a place like this. But, she's still got a body, no matter how much she refuses to believe, she's still conscious and existing in an unknown place where she entered the body of a "tribute".

Heavens! Her head still hurts!

"Miss, are you okay?" Wu Si watched Zhuo Qing incomprehensively, one moment she was an imposing bully, now what, a look of pain?

Zhuo Qing was in no mood to be bothered by anyone, she needs to calm down!

"Elder brother Wu! Elder brother Wu!" Came a bunch of excited boys from the

village, a twenty-year-old boy Liu Yu rushed over towards Wu Si, pushed his way through the throng of villagers, holding a piece of paper, showcasing it he exclaimed, “you came back, I have written it well, Elder brother Wu you take a look at it!”

Wu Si pushed Liu Yu’s hand, he smiled awkwardly: “Look at what, I’m not literate.”

Xiao Wuzi also curled his lip and jeered: “Exactly. Among us here, you’re the only one who can read! Asking us to look, we cannot read it, ah.”

Liu Yu looked down, embarrassed he scratched his head, smiled and said: “I . . . I learned from my father for just two years, after he died, I had no one to teach me.”

“That’s already better than ours!” Grabbing the paper in the hands of Liu Yu, Xiao Wuzi examined it at length but did not understand a thing, puzzled he asked, “Elder brother Wu, why must we write this thing ah?”

Wu Si whacked Xiao Wuzi’s head, took the piece of paper, carefully folded it, and sighed: “didn’t the feudal official say, we need to submit an appeal, we cannot afford a lawyer, so we have to write this on our own. If Prime Minister Lou really comes, then we must have something on hand to submit, to inform our grievance, isn’t it?”

“I see now why we need to write this thing!” Casting a sidelong glance at Zhuo Qing, Xiao Wuzi cursed under his breath, but for this disfigured woman, will Prime Minister Lou really come?

The feudal official said, the appeal is indeed crucial, whether or not they’re able to clear the benefactor, he has to see it. Wu Si glanced at Zhuo Qing who was sitting nearby, his eyes lit up, he pleaded: “Miss, could I trouble you to help us look at it?” He knew the girl comes from a rich family, she must be literate!

Zhuo Qing thought for a moment and replied: “Bring it to me.” She also wanted to know what drove these simple and honest villagers to the extent of kidnapping a person, and this country’s writing she has not seen yet, she might as well take advantage of this opportunity to have a look.

Unfolding the paper, Zhuo Qing was flabbergasted.

Tags: [A mistaken marriage match: Record of washed grievances](#), [C-Novel](#), [Chinese Novel](#), [Chinese Novel Translation](#), [错嫁良缘之洗冤录](#), [Novel Translations](#), [Qian Lu](#), [浅绿](#) | [Permalink](#).

## Chapter 5

### Chapter 5: Niu Jia village — A mistaken marriage match: Record of washed grievances by Qian Lu (错嫁良缘之洗冤录, 浅绿)

[March 15, 2015](#) by [inno](#) [10 Comments](#)

#### Chapter 5: Niu Jia village

Unfolding the paper, Zhuo Qing was flabbergasted. Zhuo Qing's mother is a professor of Studies of Ancient Chinese Civilization, she saw several traditional Chinese characters on the paper and understood what she has seen, however, these cockamamy circles, what do they mean, the writing here consisted of characters and symbols? This could be hard for her.

"Ahem!" Zhuo Qing cleared her throat strongly a few times, seeing the young Liu Yu, she asked, "Can I . . . can I ask you?"

Liu Yu nodded innocently.

"The circle of pork on a skewer what does it mean?"

"Uh . . ." Liu Yu's face reddened, scratched his hair, smiled and replied, "it means the benefactor to our village for food and blankets." He learned for only two years, he does not know how to write the word, so instead he drew a picture.

So that's it! So, he replaced words he does not know with pictures instead, okay, here the text should be traditional Chinese characters.

Reading further on, Zhuo Qing's brow wrinkled and asked: "and what is the meaning of these little dots?"

Liu Yu laughed: "ah that . . . that means . . . to get a redress." His father had taught him the word, saying that it was a word a very knowledgeable person would use, but unfortunately he did not teach him how to write it.

Zhuo Qing's mouth froze, his idea of expressing the word, these dots look like snow falling? Creative, very creative indeed! She has to bear it!

Reading on again, pretty soon, the paper also has a drawing of a mesh-like thing. “This one?” According to how his mind runs, Zhuo Qing guessed and said, “I know, the meaning of this is a net!”

“Not really.” Liu Yu muttered, “it means a prison cell.”

This is a prison cell?

“I really . . . ” Do not get angry, do not get angry, taking several deep breaths, she threw back the appeal to Wu Si, Zhuo Qing uttered a few words through her teeth, “admire Wu – in this form – to send – – to – ” Can it also be considered an appeal? She suddenly wanted to see the face of Prime Minister Lou reading this appeal, it must be very exciting!

Listening to the question-and-answer exchange, Xiao Wuzi whacked Liu Yu’s head very hard, berating: “Damn you, Liu Yu! Elder brother Wu asked you to write an appeal, but you just scrawled some undecipherable scribbles, ah!”

“Hey, do not fight with me.” Grumbling, Liu Yu covered his head, and exclaimed, “I would not have had to write ah, but you, you forced me to write!”

“You also talk back, ah!” The two men scuffled with each other.

“Knock it off!” Wu Si yelled, miserably sitting on the ground, his honest face was full of disappointment. The appeal he was tightly holding in his hands was now crumpled together. “Without an appeal, how can we help the benefactor seek justice!”

You’re to blame! Xiao Wuzi glared at Liu Yu, crouching beside Wu Si, he cautiously urged: “Elder brother Wu, how about when Prime Minister Lou comes, we just kowtow to him, yes, we cannot write, but don’t we have the ability to speak!”

“I’m afraid, we’re just a bunch of ignorants, if we cannot explain clearly in a short time, what if Prime Minister Lou gets impatient and walks out, what are we going to do?” They have not gone to explain to the officials, apart from being driven away, continuously the officials would not see them at all! But, this is a different matter, they kidnapped the Prime Minister’s woman!

Xiao Wuzi pointed to Zhuo Qing, saying: “Is she not literate?! Well, let’s ask her to write it!”

Zhuo Qing coldly turned her head away, turning a blind eye to them. These people have lots of passion but no brains, an appeal is futile.

Wu Si suddenly stood up, walked over to her, and dropped, seriously kneeling in front of her, he was only in his thirties but his face is weathered, full of pleading, “Miss, abducting you, it was our wrongdoing, but we did it because we are truly desperate! Please, help us write an appeal now!”

Zhuo Qing was startled, living in the twenty-first century, she really is not used to having someone kneeling down before her. She got up and took a step back, her voice was still cold, but her heart was already moved, “regardless of the reason, a forceful kidnapping means breaking the law, even if Prime Minister Lou really comes, your so-called appeal may not necessarily get the attention you want, but you are bringing trouble to the village!”

Wu Si drew himself up, his face defiant, he shouted back: “the kidnapping was my idea, I would assume responsibility, as long as Prime Minister Lou comes, to hear the appeal, I, Wu Si, willingly takes the blame!” Anyway, his wife and children already died of that disease, in life and death he is alone!

As soon as Wu Si’s voice faded, the quiet villagers immediately cried excitedly.

“No, the hostage-taking was our idea!”

“It was my idea!”

“Well, to get a public hearing, it was worth the trouble!”

“Yes!”

The cries came wave after wave, on each face the sense of heroism and sacrifice was plain to see.

Zhuo Qing’s head began to hurt all over again! “Shut up!” A cold female voice resonated, the villagers immediately shut up, hopeful pairs of eyes were riveted on her. Zhuo Qing grabbed Wu Si’s sleeves and pulled herself up, sighing with exasperation, “I will write the appeal, you have to tell me what exactly happened.”

Zhuo Qing admitted that she was touched by their simple and sincere hearts, in order to repay, they didn’t hesitate to kidnap a person, confronting people

from the Estate of the Prime Minister simply armed with poles and hoes in their hands. They even thought of sending a badly written appeal, lying on the table she reached out her hand and traced awkwardly the drawings, thinking of this appeal filled with absurd drawings, Zhuo Qing could not help but smile.

“Miss said yes! That’s great!” The villagers cried together, this group of people coming from the Niu Jia village rushed to swarm around Zhuo Qing.

“The thing is . . .”

“Well, he is a good man . . .”

“I’m telling you, the officials . . .”

The large study was divided into two by a jade screen, on the left, there was a simple rosewood desk, a piece of ink painting, revealing the host’s elegant and refined temperament; on the right, next to the window is a small, low table, two extraordinary and handsome men sat opposite each other, their eyes glued on the small, low table.

After a while, Lou Xi Yan’s mouth slightly lifted, smilingly he said: “You lose.”

Two three four, nine small! He lost again. Bored, he pushed away the dice cup, Qi Tian Yu cursed under his breath: “I’m not playing, to keep on losing, the Qi family will all lose to you!”

Lou Xi Yan nonchalantly laughed: “I’m just having fun with you, I win with this little thing, in the light of the Qi family, this is just a pittance!”

A pittance?! Annoyed he refuses to believe, his family is running a gambling house, from his childhood until he’s grown up, his expertise lies in dice gambling, but for no reason at all, every time he plays dice with Xi Yan, he loses, ah? He must be cheating! Even if Qi Tianyu inwardly felt indignant, he did not have the guts to search Lou Xi Yan’s body.

Looking out of the window, the moon is already rising, Qi Tian Yu mockingly teased: “The day is getting dark, how come your little beauty has not arrived yet?! You’re not hiding her away, letting me not see her, right?” He came over at noon, he has not seen the beauty yet, but he lost quite a few thousand taels of silver already.

He looked so impatient, Lou Xi Yan indifferently replied to him: "If you like, your family can take over later." Although he does not disdain women like great general Su, but he also is not fond of debauchery.

"Are you trying to kill me ah!" Qi Tian Yu pretending to be afraid shrieked, "The emperor bestowed you a gift, who would dare fight over it! Besides, you have not seen the little beauty yet, maybe once you've seen her you'd hate to part with her. I heard indeed that the second miss of the Qing family is devastatingly beautiful, outstanding in poetry and music, you want talent she has talent, you want beauty she has beauty . . ."

While Qi Tian Yu was speaking eloquently, a muffled knocking sound on the door came through.

"Come in."

A man walked into the room, his dark resolute face, sharp as a cutting stone, cold and expressionless. Qi Tian Yu indeed has not seen such a stone face, without waiting for him to speak, Qi Tian Yu anxiously asked: "Jing Sa, the little beauty has not arrived yet?"

Jing Sa's cold face hesitatingly looked towards Lou Xi Yan.

Knowing Jing Sa's character, Lou Xi Yan knew already in his heart, something has happened. Lou Xi Yan's face was deadpan, he said: "Go ahead."

Jing Sa coldly replied: "Miss Qing's carriage was attacked just before reaching the capital."

"Attacked?" Qi Tian Yu was stunned, someone really dared to kidnap Xi Yan's woman?

"At that time more than a hundred villagers swarmed, kidnapped Miss Qing, and threatened that master should go to the Niu Jia village before she will be released. Your servant had already sent men to investigate, the Niu Jia village is a small village ten miles from the capital, poor people live in the village, young and old altogether, about two hundred people."

Qi Tian Yu laughed excitedly, "a total of only two hundred people mobilized more than a hundred just to abduct a woman?"

“The guards sent reported, they have already found Niu Jia village, but found no traces of Miss Qing. They insisted to meet master, otherwise they won’t let her go.” This afternoon hearing the news of Qing Feng’s abduction, he initially thought it was just a farce of the villagers, he dispatched men to get her back, who knew the villagers surprisingly were not that simple, as if already anticipating their intentions, they hid the person very well, their attitude is also very tough.

Lou Xi Yan’s eyes glinted meaningfully, the corners of his lips seemed to lift, gently smiling he said: “In other words, my not going there is not at all an option.”

That expression of Xi Yan . . . Qi Tian Yu inexplicably broke out in goose bumps.

Tags: [A mistaken marriage match: A generation of military counselor](#), [A mistaken marriage match: Record of washed grievances](#), [C-Novel](#), [Chinese Novel](#), [Chinese Novel Translation](#), [错嫁良缘之洗冤录](#), [Novel Translations](#), [Qian Lu](#), [浅绿](#) | [Permalink](#).

# Chapter 6

## Chapter 6: Lou Xi Yan – Part 1 — A mistaken marriage match: Record of washed grievances by Qian Lu (错嫁良缘之洗冤录, 浅绿)

[March 16, 2015](#) by [inno](#) [18 Comments](#)

Hi all. Here's another installment of Zhuo Qing's story. As I have already used up lots of my extra free time doing the latest updates, it might take a while before I post the next update. Also, I have changed the chapter numbers to conform to a new online source I've found. The prologue of ROWG is edited as well (there's a bit of difference in text in the beginning); just click links in the index page to avoid confusion.

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### Chapter 6: Lou Xi Yan – Part 1

A shabby hut, with holes at all its sides, a wobbling stool creaking now and then, a tiny oil lamp on the table, its flickering small flame not brighter than the moonlight. A bowl of congee, a small dish of pickled radish, a voracious figure and a crowd of stupefied villagers.

“Miss Xiao Zhuo!” Wu Si glanced at the empty bowl again, swallowed and cautiously asked: “Do you want another serving?”

Zhuo Qing put down the bowl and coldly replied: “Call me Zhuo Qing. Well, I'm full now.”

“Oh.” Wu Si let out a long sigh of relief. She finally had enough, after seeing the bottom of the pot! Don't all ladies eat slowly and pick at their food? Have they perhaps abducted the wrong person? Every villager thought of the same thing!

Their eyes right away opened wide. Zhuo Qing knew too without looking at them what they were thinking. But, she had not eaten anything for three or four days. She was not interested in playing coy.

The villagers can only dare have this thought in their minds, but no one dared to speak. This girl exuded coldness from head to toe, especially her eyes. They're like arrows penetrating a person. They did not dare look her in the eye at all. Xiao Wuzi who was used to enduring a lot of difficulties in the past, though not daring to get too close, crouched beside her and fawningly asked: "Fortunately, you were dressed up like a villager, otherwise they would have found you. But, how did you know people from the Estate of the Prime Minister will come?"

Pulling the large, coarse clothing draped on her body, Zhuo Qing snappily scolded: "You should thank your own luck that only family servants came and not soldiers. You have indeed chosen the right man." It seems this Prime Minister Lou actually knows right from wrong. A master who has compassion for the common people. Otherwise he would have sent troops and have them all arrested. Still she's afraid he's not a person they could afford to provoke!

Affected by her rebuff, Xiao Wuzi twitched his mouth, leaned over and asked: "Are you saying then Prime Minister Lou will really come?"

Zhuo Qing smiled faintly and calmly replied: "He will definitely come."

The corners of her mouth fluttered as she smiled. Xiao Wuzi distractedly watched her at length. She seemed really very nice.

Zhuo Qing's voice has not yet faded out when an urgent, excited male voice was already yelling all the way from the village. "Elder brother Wu! Elder brother Wu!" Finally bursting into the house, Liu Yu, sweating profusely, huffed and puffed. His face was turning dark red, but words were not coming out of his mouth. Wu Si hastily swatted his back and asked: "What happened to make you this anxious?"

Liu Yu, pointing outside, excitedly exclaimed: "Prime . . . Prime Minister Lou is here!"

Wu Si widened his eyes in shock. Clutching Liu Yu's collar, he urgently asked: "Really? Where is he?"

In his excitement Liu Yu did not mind being grabbed in the neck, exclaimed: "Really, it's true. He's just at the entrance of the village."

After a second of silence, cries of joy erupted inside the hut.

“Prime Minister Lou really came!” Wu Si muttered in disbelief. After recovering his wits, he promptly called out loudly: “Hurry, hurry, hurry. Let’s go out to meet him!” Wu Si hurriedly and excitedly strode out of the door. Suddenly recalling something, he rushed back into the house. Randomly rummaging, his mouth was anxiously mumbling: “The appeal! Where’s the appeal?”

Zhuo Qing sat like a statue on the stool. Eyeing him indifferently scurrying about like a headless fly until unable to stand it anymore she rolled her eyes. Brandishing the appeal on her hand, she said impatiently: “Here it is.”

Wu Si rushed to her and carefully took the appeal from her hand. Cheerfully he said: “Zhuo Qing, you come with us to the village. Prime Minister Lou already came. After we tell him our grievance, you too can go and return with him.”

“No!” Zhuo Qing hurriedly said.

“Why?” Wu Si was puzzled. She originally is a person of Prime Minister Lou. Now she can go back. Why does she look unwilling?

Because she is Zhuo Qing. She is not a gift. Furthermore she’s not somebody’s accessory! Of course, these need not be explained to them. Zhuo Qing’s eyes rolled. Quite unlike her usual tone, she gently replied: “If I go back with him and he does not give you redress for your grievance, what will you do? You go. I’ll stay here.” When they are all gone, she’d then sneak out!

“This isn’t right.” Wu Si hastily shook his head. “You’re a precious young lady. You’ve been abducted. We made you suffer hardship. Yet you helped us write the appeal and wanted to help us appeal for justice. We can not wrong you anymore. You and Prime Minister Lou can return together. I believe, since Prime Minister Lou have come, surely he will meet the people!”

This young lady behaved icy cold all day long, but she really has a good heart. They cannot hold her up any longer. If a young girl is abducted for a few days, indeed her reputation and integrity may be ruined!

“Yes! Miss Zhuo, you go back.”

“Yes ah! Do not let us hold you up.”

Listening to their sincere and comforting words Zhuo Qing’s heart felt sorry. If she just walks away, what will happen to the villagers?

She does not have the heart to let the villagers be implicated, and even less to end up as someone's gift. Zhuo Qing finds herself trapped in a dilemma. Unfortunately this prime minister is already in the village. Running out of option, she could only proceed one step at a time. Her arms looped around her chest, her face stern, deliberately she asked: "Do you really want to help Lin Bo Kang appeal for justice?"

"Of course!" That goes without saying?

Very good! Zhuo Qing slightly raised her head. Sweeping her calm gaze slowly across everyone in the hut she said firmly: "I want you to just listen to me. I can find a natural way to get Prime Minister Lou to act on your appeal for justice. Later I will go with you. But, before the Lin Bo Kang's case concludes, you must never reveal my identity to Prime Minister Lou. Right now, I am one of your villagers, called Zhuo Qing. Bear that in mind, okay?"

The villagers looked at each other with consternation. Most people did not understand. But, each time they are confronted with this pair of calm, cold eyes, they ineffably could not refuse. Thus finally they could only foolishly nod their heads saying: "Yes!"

"Come on." Secretly relieved, Zhuo Qing grabbed a worn-out hat hanging on the wall, pulling it over her head to fasten her hair coiled in a bun atop and hiding it securely. Only then did Zhuo Qing walk out of the shabby hut, along with the villagers headed for the entrance of the village where a lot of people have already assembled.

She hopes it will not be too tough to deal with Prime Minister Lou! The group of people hurriedly rushed to the entrance of the village. Zhuo Qing did not walk too close in front. Her location was just so that she could see clearly the situation ahead, yet also stay hidden amidst the crowd.

Zhuo Qing narrowed her eyes as she was nearing. She could not help but have a sinking feeling in her heart. Originally she surmised that since meeting a mob of hot-headed villagers, a gathering of them would certainly not be small, poses danger for the prime minister who came out of his estate, there should be a hundred of bodyguards with him. Or at the least, a few dozen of elite troops! Who would have thought, the situation would turn out like this.

Tags: [A mistaken marriage match: Record of washed grievances](#), [C-Novel](#), [Chinese Novel](#), [Chinese Novel Translation](#), [错嫁良缘之洗冤录](#), [Novel Translations](#), [Qian Lu](#), [浅绿](#) | [Permalink](#).

# Chapter 7

## Chapter 7: Lou Xi Yan – Part 2 — A mistaken marriage match: Record of washed grievances by Qian Lu (错嫁良缘之洗冤录, 浅绿)

[April 18, 2015](#) by [inno](#) [14 Comments](#)

### Chapter 7: Lou Xi Yan – Part 2

Under the big banyan tree in the entrance to the village, two men of strong and muscular build stood opposite hundreds of villagers, one has a dark skin, nearly blending into the moonlight, his entire face covered with cold frost as if it's carved from a glacier; the other has a snowy white skin, with a pair of blue eyes like the deep sea, such magical eyes enchanting people. Nevertheless, their looks are equally menacing and their imposing stance threatening. Under the dim light of the night, these people, one black and one white, two people standing shoulder to shoulder, inexplicably somewhat terrifying the people.

Their bodies leaned on one side of the banyan tree, a splendidly dressed man who looked bored stiff leaned on the other side, his countenance handsome and bright, his motions casual and carefree, somehow he has quite the makings of a yuppie.

Zhuo Qing's wandering gaze settled on the man standing behind whose long body was leaning on the tree, unexpectedly he shifted without opening his eyes!

Under the moonlight, the man was dressed in a deep plum long gown, the lapel of which was embroidered with several wisps of simple, wavy dark lines of golden threads, his hair was bunched with a simple jade buckle, wearing no hair crown, nevertheless, it did not lessen his noble and elegant style. His long and narrow eyes slightly fluttered, with a matching genial smile on the corners of his mouth, his gestures are all graceful, indeed a gentleman like a jade, of his appearance one may say, it warms the heart and delights the eye. But Zhuo Qing felt a bit fascinated, especially his eyes, profound and quiet, they seemed to see through everything, in it a little faint trace of . . .

A little of what? Zhuo Qing slightly narrowed her eyes as she tried to think, she wanted to look a bit more clearly, the man's eyes suddenly widened and he turned looking over towards her direction. Alarmed Zhuo Qing hurriedly bowed her head, pulled down the ragged hat, hiding most of her face, she finally heaved a sigh of relief, a man with keen senses!

Lou Xi Yan appeared to casually scan the crowd, yet he did not find anything amiss, just a moment ago he had the odd feeling of being scrutinized, was it just his imagination, or has the said person hidden himself too well? If so, his visit here would not be in vain.

Lou Xi Yan's mood is rather cheerful, he raised his head wearing a warm smile, took a step forward turning towards the opposite side, the villagers helplessly stared at him in trepidation.

As Lou Xi Yan strolled towards them, only then the villagers managed to react, promptly they kneeled and cried out: "We meet the Prime Minister Da Ren\*!" Zhuo Qing not used to going down on her knees, but left without choice, forced herself to follow the gesture, also half crouched her body.

[\*Da Ren – a title of respect towards superiors]

"Everyone get up." Lou Xi Yan slightly raised his hand, chuckled and asked, "You invited me to come here, what is the matter?"

Invited? Zhuo Qing gently arched her eyebrow, this can still be regarded as an invitation, this awesome man has good style ah! His melodious voice quiet and sleek, slightly muffled, it sounded very fitting to this man. Pulling the hat, Zhuo Qing could not help but look up again, looking to the man in front whose laughter reminds one of a spring breeze.

The prime minister, according to hearsays, is indeed gentle and cultivated who loves the common people as his own children ah! The villagers were greatly encouraged, in unison they exclaimed: "Prime Minister Da Ren, we beseech you to redress our grievance ah!"

The cry for redress repeated continuously, Qi Tian Yu unable to endure it cupped his ears, and coolly said: "If you want to appeal for justice, you should go to the right authorities, you seizing a person first, threatening a court official afterwards, do you want to go into jail?" He initially thought he would enjoy a

good show here, if he had known earlier it was going to be this boring, he would not have come.

Qi Tian Yu's voice hardly faded out, Wu Si already hastily got up, Zhuo Qing wanted to hinder him, but unfortunately he moved so quickly, Zhuo Qing was even unable to grab the sleeves of his clothes.

Wu Si, kowtowing in front of Lou Xi Yan, resolutely knocked his head on the ground three times, took a deep breath and exclaimed: "Prime Minister Da Ren, we, peasants are dull-witted, we have come this far, it was our last resort, we have been to the government office countless times already, the officials said the case has been sentenced already and threw us out. Yet we held back. We tried to find Enforcement of Penalties Da Ren to appeal for justice, but Da Ren also is not in the capital. We wanted to seek you to reason, but can common people enter the Estate of the Prime Minister as they wish? We really are . . ." Wu Si did not know what to say anymore, he could only bitterly continue to kowtow with vigor.

Dong, dong, Zhuo Qing listened to the thudding sound apprehensively. He thinks his head is made of iron! Zhuo Qing suddenly swatted Xiao Wuzi who was beside her, she whispered: "demand justice!"

"What?" A confused Xiao Wuzi asked. Idiot! Firmly pinching his arm, Zhuo Qing hissed the word through her teeth "shout – injustice -"

Xiao Wuzi finally recovering his wits, yelled: "injustice ah!" Her hand is very strong, how it really hurts!

His quite mournful cry also jolted the crowd of stupid villagers to action, immediately afterwards they followed suit, likewise yelling injustice one after the other.

"Prime Minister Da Ren, injustice ah. . ."

"Prime Minister Da Ren, grant us redress. . ."

Backing down, Lou Xi Yan's eyes swept across the sincere, indignant faces, it looks as if these people really have suffered an injustice which they want to appeal, thereupon he stepped forward, propped Wu Si up who incessantly kowtowed the whole time, and said: "you might as well tell me straightforward the circumstances surrounding this miscarriage of justice."

Wu Si frantically got up, not daring to let Lou Xi Yan lend his arm to support him, he groped his body well for a moment, carefully he fished out a piece of paper from his bosom, very cautiously he proffered it, “This is the appeal.”

They also wrote an appeal! Lou Xi Yan received it with a smile, slowly he unfolded the paper. A moment later, his smile steady, he casually asked: “This appeal, who wrote it?”

Qi Tian Yu walked over, curious, he took hold of the appeal. Other people may not be aware, but he and Lou Xi Yan grew up together, the more casual his tone is, the more gentle his smile is, the more he minds about an explanation, the more suspicious it is!

Oh no, I’m done for! Zhuo Qing cursed under her breath. By all means do not turn around, do not look at me, do not look back! Zhuo Qing muttered the words in her mind countless times, but unfortunately the heavens didn’t hear her prayers, the villagers turned around in concert, without exception, everyone stared at her.

Damn it! What a pack of idiots, brainless idiots!

Zhuo Qing called to mind every swear word she learned in her twenty years of life and cursed them over and over, still she had to get up slowly, because this “gentle” line of sight has already tightly zoomed on her.

Tags: [A mistaken marriage match: Record of washed grievances](#), [C-Novel](#), [Chinese Novel](#), [Chinese Novel Translation](#), [错嫁良缘之洗冤录](#), [Qian Lu](#), [浅绿](#) | [Permalink](#).

## Chapter 8

### Chapter 8: First confrontation — A mistaken marriage match: Record of washed grievances by Qian Lu (错嫁良缘之洗冤录, 浅绿)

[August 12, 2015](#) by [inno 26 Comments](#)

#### Chapter 8: First confrontation

Lou Xi Yan's eyes followed the crowd's line of sight to a slim figure crouching on the ground with his head down. After a long time, the person slowly stood up. A big hat covered most of his face obscuring his appearance and a large coarse clothing was draped around his body. He seemed even more petite. He looked just like a harmless youngster, but Lou Xi Yan had reservations about that.

The person maintained his silence, amused Lou Xi Yan inquired: "Did you write this appeal?"

Zhuo Qing kept her head down, her voice low, feebly replied: "Yes." How much she had wanted to deny it, but the kneeling idiots behind her will only get her into trouble, it's her first time to "abhor" such simple but kind-hearted working people.

Qi Tian Yu looked at Zhuo Qing up and down sizing her up, gently he shook the appeal on his hand, he deliberately exclaimed loudly to Lou Xi Yan: "The wording is fairly concise and sharp, but the handwriting is awfully ugly."

Zhuo Qing still kept her head down, not saying a word. Never before has she anyway claimed her handwriting is beautiful, he just wanted to provoke her, still he had a point.

Zhuo Qing decided to play dumb and stared blankly, Lou Xi Yan wasn't perturbed, turning towards Wu Si, he asked: "you are not his family and not linked to this case, why are you clamoring for his innocence? What is your evidence that he was wrongly accused?"

Wu Si did not dare look directly at Lou Xi Yan's eyes, the words he has

rehearsed countless times before poured out of his heart like a stream: “Prime Minister Da Ren, Lin Bo Kang is the benefactor of our entire village! The Niu Jia village has only three wells. All villagers, animals, and plants for our food rely on these source of water. During times of bad weather, frequent droughts caused crop failures. Over the last few years, it was our benefactor who sustained us by providing us food and even winter blankets. Doing this not just for one or two days, but for ten years in a row. A whole decade! He’s such a great philanthropist. How could he be guilty of substituting shoddy goods, stealing and switching military provisions? Our benefactor is absolutely nothing of the kind! He must have been wrongly accused! Prime Minister Da Ren, please reconsider!”

As it turned out, this is about that case of theft and switching of army provisions, as early as a half month ago, the Ministry of Justice has already passed judgment on it. The case had human testimony and material evidence, even a letter of confession, Lou Xi Yan was puzzled, “the government office has already judged this case. Lin Bo Kang also pleaded guilty and even signed a letter of confession. What is this charge of injustice about? Unless you have supporting evidence in your hand?”

“We ...” They do not have such evidence! They’re simply relying on their conviction! Fearing that Minister Lou was not convinced of its truth, Wu Si kneeled again and began to knock his head on the ground.

“Benefactor will never do such a thing! Da Ren, please reconsider!”

A big man, choking back his sobs while kowtowing, the villagers behind him followed suit, kneeled down and also began to kowtow. Dong, dong, dong ... Hearing these thumping sounds really fired up Zhuo Qing’s ire. This is unbelievably a bunch of pigs! They ought to speak but they don’t, all they know is to kowtow! Zhuo Qing grabbed Wu Si’s shoulders and coldly said: “enough.”

Standing out of the crowd, Zhuo Qing stood opposite him and coldly narrated: “according to what Lin Bo Kang’s wife said, she visited him in prison after the case was sentenced. Lin Bo Kang still insisted that he was wrongfully accused. How can a man who already pleaded guilty still insists on his innocence? The case was not heard in public, we have grounds to suspect that Lin Bo Kang’s confession was extorted under torture. Either he was forced or his fingerprints were pressed on while he was in an unconscious state.”

“Torture?” Such an interesting word, though his appearance is still obscured, but his clear, calm voice and unflappable bearing, gave Lou Xi Yan a feeling that this person is no ordinary villager. Step by step he neared Zhou Qing and tenaciously asked: “having said this, do you have evidence?”

A strong sense of oppression! His voice is undoubtedly very gentle, his smiling expression very light, but every time this said gentle line of vision always makes Zhuo Qing inexplicably tense.

Gu Yun always claimed that offense is the best defense, she believed this just now! She’s never been one to retreat, today is as good as any day. Slightly raising her head, Zhuo Qing confidently said: “whether or not he was interrogated under torture, checking his body for injuries will naturally clear the issue. Lin Bo Kang insists he is wrongly accused, but obviously there’s someone who could not wait to settle this case. I dare ask the Prime Minister, if it really was interrogation under torture, what are you going to do about it?”

Lou Xi Yan was caught surprised, unexpectedly he wasn’t cowed! Under the moonlight, two people stood opposite each other. A pair of clear eyes below the hat met his steady gaze.

Yes, they’re clear! He had not come across such clear eyes in so many years. Having spent a long time in the imperial court where everyone wore masks, he almost forgot this openness. Feeling warm in his heart due to to this rare openness, Lou Xi Yan replied in a lowered tone: “If it is truly as you claim, then of course, there’ll be a retrial.”

Oh great! Pressing for more as a follow up to this victory, Zhuo Qing purposely asked aloud: “for the sake of fairness, will the Prime Minister conduct the retrial of this case in public?”

A retrial open to public? He cornered him on this! If he does not consent to a public hearing it would seem justice is not served!

Very good! With a smile Lou Xi Yan lightly nodded, languidly he responded: “I think this idea is great, making the retrial of this case open to public is very good!”

As soon as this sentence was out, Zhuo Qing basked in delight, but was thrown into the abyss soon after hearing the next sentence. “It’s just that ...”

Deliberately stalling his voice, Lou Xi Yan closed in on Zhuo Qing, underscoring every word distinctly, uttering every word in an exceptionally slow manner, “according to Qiong Yue’s established laws, in the absence of new evidence to prove a prisoner’s innocence, if after a retrial, he’s still convicted of the original crime, the proponent of the retrial is guilty of the crime of contempt of the court of law, his punishment can be light with a hundred cane strikes or heavy as serving the army for three years!”

What? There is such a law?! What kind of judicial system is this, filing an appeal could even possibly lead to committing a crime? Why did no one tell her about this? She swore she saw a spark of humor in the eyes of the Prime Minister, even though it was fleeting, but definitely it was there!

Zhuo Qing was just about to open her mouth, but Wu Si as soon as he heard Minister Lou was willing to reopen the case promptly got excited, loudly declared: “As I’m convinced our benefactor is innocent, I’m ready to take responsibility of this crime!”

Ready or not, my foot! Not to mention Lin Bo Kang may not necessarily be innocent, if he is really innocent, what is the evidence? Zhuo Qing itched to give Wu Si a hard kick!

She was almost overcome with anger, but at this time Lou Xi Yan displaying an exuberant smile spoke: “You! What’s your name?” This fellow is very interesting, upright and clever, and yet as if not understanding him at all, from the beginning Lou Xi Yan was covertly observing him among the mob of angry villagers, his interest in him increasingly grew.

She took a breath, restraining herself not to give vent to her anger, Zhuo Qing replied coldly: “Before you ask other people’s name, you should state your name first, this is basic courtesy.”

Is that so? Lou Xi Yan faintly smiled and replied: “Lou Xi Yan (樓夕顏).”

“Xi Yan (惜顏)?” Zhuo Qing mumbled under her breath, a pair of bright eyes flitted repeatedly across Lou Xi Yan’s face.

[Note: Lou Xi Yan’s first name means “evening countenance”, but Zhuo Qing mistook it for its homonym which means “cherished countenance”. I admit I don’t know much about Chinese names, but from the context here it seems this

‘mistaken’ name sounded a bit effeminate.]

From Zhuo Qing’s strange facial expression, Qi Tian Yu acutely sensed there was going to be a good show to watch, folded his arms across his chest and laughed: “young fellow, do you have objection to that?”

Shaking her head nonchalantly, Zhuo Qing readily replied: “none.”

Was that all? Just when Qi Tian Yu grew disappointed, Zhuo Qing in a not loud nor soft, not light nor heavy tone blurted out: “imagine an illustrious man bearing a woman’s name.”

The aftermath of Zhuo Qing’s “blurting out aloud her private musings” was startling, the hundreds of people gathered in the entrance of the village instantly fell into dead silence.

A sense of horror swamped the villagers, Jing Sa and Mo Bai scowled, Qi Tian Yu was struck dumb, even though he himself also considered Xi Yan’s name very . . . But no one ever dared to mention this to his face! Ah .. this kid! To have such chutzpah!

Qi Tian Yu swore he just caught sight of the ever gentle and refined Prime Minister Lou who’s renowned among the six kingdoms for his invariable affable smile, for the first time the corners of his mouth curved stiffly into a smile like they were . . . twitching.

Someone’s going to encounter bad luck!

Tags: [A mistaken marriage match: Record of washed grievances](#), [Chinese Novel Translation](#), [错嫁良缘之洗冤录](#) | [Permalink](#).

## Record of Washed Grievances Chapter 9: First Confrontation (Part 2)

Lou Xi Yan kept silent. Everyone didn't know how to react, hundreds of people occupied the entrance of the village silently. The Chief thought it was somewhat strange & the atmosphere seemed to become stuffy. Zhuo Qing cast a quick glance at Lou Xi Yan, he smiled and his narrow eyes slightly up, very "lovingly," gazing at her. It was a pity, Zhuo Qing did not see a gentle and lukewarm feeling. Instead, there was a somewhat overwhelming feeling!

He was a prime minister, a "legend", said to be gentle and kind as a jade, so he should not be so narrow-minded?! Holding on the brim of her hat, Zhuo Qing quietly retreated, a gentleman would not stand under the wall of danger... (I think this is an idiom saying that somebody will not wait for any danger to come to him/her so it's better to retreat).

Surprisingly, her feet had just moved, all of a sudden flash of lightning with thunder came down. Originally it was still spring but in a flash the wind began to blow abruptly, blowing and swirling the vegetation. Zhuo Qing was startled & looked up at the sky, only to see a black dark horizon. Zhuo Qing was dumbfounded: "Is not it." She did not say anything outrageous, however, the natural science of heaven couldn't tolerate it! To go as far as giving so much lighting flashes & thunder rolls!

After several more thunder, it was downpour. "It rains –" the sudden rainstorm let everyone's mistake to be forgotten in confusion. Zhuo Qing hurriedly took advantage of the confusion to retreat. Suddenly, she felt a sudden pain in her wrist that was grabbed by a clean & slender big hand tightly. Zhuo Qing looked up and looked, in a moment saw Lou Xi Yan! Under heavy rain, everyone was in an awkward position, except he still had a pair of leisurely look, separated by a thick fog. He looked like he almost couldn't see, but Zhuo Qing could still feel and suffer from that slender eyes that were watching her intently.

More & more rain. Da Wu Si shouted loudly: "Prime minister, this way please,

go to the ancestral hall to hide and take shelter from the rain!” Lou Xi Yan smiled and nodded. He pulled Zhuo Qing and walked over to the village entrance next to the ancestral hall.

Zhuo Qing struggled hard to let go off Lou Xi Yan’s grab. After, she gave up to guard her weak appearance and to see his gentle emaciated look. His hand’s strength was unexpectedly strong. How can she go against that big hand, only if she does not want her hand or else do not even think about running away!

Lou Xi Yan looked back and watched, a glimpse of a struggle for a moment, then silently followed behind the youngster’s body. The corner of his mouth unconsciously and lightly perked up.

The so-called ancestral hall, was just one large mud room, a small table to provide a sacrificial offering, also, some burned and used up joss stick and candle, four extremely broken windows, rain dripping from time to time from the broken roof, was not that big of a place. Then, there was an overflow of people came, it was extremely crowded. Fortunately, Lou Xi Yan’s two imperial bodyguards stood guarding there so the villagers also did not dare to press in and come over to the table in the corner to rest.

Her hand was still being grabbed by Lou Xi Yan, Zhuo Qing was not used to it and it was unbearable to shake the arm. Zhuo Qing could not tolerate it and said: “Prime minister Daren, you can let go of my hand.”

Originally Lou Xi Yan was ready to let go but after hearing her statement, he ignored it. Instead, he used more strength to grab her hand and hold on to her wrist tightly. His voice was gentle as usual: “You asked someone else’s name, but did not even say your own name. It did not seem like a good courtesy in this matter.”

~ It hurts!! This man is too sinister! Her hand will break! Zhuo Qing stubbornly gritted her teeth. She did not say a word nor reply. Feeling her palm and wrist were trembling, Lou Xi Yan loosened his hand strength. This youngster’s hand is too thin and he was really afraid that he would accidentally break his hand. Letting go of his hand, Lou Xi Yan faintly asked: “What’s your name?”

The cold voice sounded muffled like a low sinking bow string of instrument, Zhuo Qing softly looked up to look at Lou Xi Yan, a closer look at his features

were more handsome. This time he did not laugh, only a little smile against the background of the narrow eyes, a tiny raise and thin lips, a faint trace of an evil and unrestrained charm. Zhuo Qing looked up and lost in thought, she suddenly saw Lou Xi Yan's eyes with a faint surprise.

Her face! Zhuo Qing hurriedly bowed her head, but Lou Xi Yan captured her chin. Her face slowly turned and timely lightning flashed down in his mind with white light to show two deep shocking scars that covered the pale cheeks. He almost could not see the complexion. Lou Xi Yan's expression was shaken a little, who was so ruthless that would leave such hideous marks on this youngster's face.

Zhuo Qing could not lower her head, only to press and live on the broken head cap and to hold and cover up the other side of the intact face tightly. She lifted her leg toward Lou Xi Yan's foot and stepped on him severely. "Humph!" Lou Xi Yan groaned softly with a somewhat high pitch voice and an expression. Zhuo Qing hurriedly took the opportunity to slap his hand and retreat back several steps.

Away from him and feeling a little bit oppressive, Zhuo Qing clutched the face cover of her hat. She pretended to be surprised and said: "Sorry to step on Prime Minister Daren's foot. It was too dark so I could not see". At this point, she really missed her three-inch heels.

Could not see it?! He can also be a little fake! Thinking of his hurt feeling, Lou Xi Yan outstretched hand was paused and finally down at once. Lou Xi Yan did not advance forward.

Zhou Qing finally relaxed a little when she heard Qi Tian Yu interrogated Wu Si at that time: "You all want to see the Prime Minister, and now he has already come so you should release the little beauty whom you kidnapped!"

Wu Si scratched his head, not knowing what to do. Miss Zhuo said that they could not say anything so what to do now?!

"Where is the person?" Observing that Wu Si was well-behaved, Qi Tian Yu interrogated and said: "You do not kill her, right?"

Repeatedly shaking his head, Wu Si urgently spoke: "No no no ..... absolutely no!!"

“Did you sell her?”

Wu Si exclaimed: “How was it possible!”

“Where is that person?”

The villagers once again went to the inside of the ancestral hall to look for that silhouette.

Shoot! Zhuo Qing lowered her head and cursed, here we go again!

Bang!

Only to hear a loud noise, Zhuo Qing fiercely smacked at the sacrificial offering table. The already tattered altar could not stand a few shakings from left to right . . . . . Afterward, it unexpectedly collapsed with a bang. . . . .

The villagers were all frightened and stared at Zhuo Qing. Lou Xi Yan gently raised his eyebrows, what kind of trick he was playing now? Well, everyone looked at her now. Lou Xi Yan should not find out about her.

A moment ago, these idiot villagers demanded to look for her! The objective has been achieved, however. . . . This is painfully killing her — @\$,\$&@! (ZQ was cursing because her hand hurts so much for smacking the table).

Slowly, she recovered her sense and lightly turned her back, Zhuo Qing took a deep breath and with a clear voice said: “She is alive and well so Prime Minister can feel relieved. We will act on behalf of you to look after her with great care. After the legal case is being heard in public, Prime minister naturally can see her!”

“If the case is not being reviewed in public, we can not see the little beauty?!” Sweeping a glimpse on the floor to see the scattered and smashed pieces of wood, Qi Tian Yu gave a spectacular look and laughed: “Prime Minister Daren, this person threatened you.”

Who is this guy to wish for the whole word to be in chaos?! Zhuo Qing secretly clenched her teeth. A cold voice replied: “This son of an official (Gong zi) blamed me wrongly. Threatening like this will not result in the matter being heard realistically. I will never do it.”

With a big tone of voice, ah! Qi Tian Yu blew a long whistle. This youngster is

really interesting. Shaking his head and pretending to be frightened, Qi Tian Yu exaggeratedly exclaimed: “You threatened, that was exactly called a threatening. To threaten the court official was a very serious crime?!”

“You!” Zhuo Qing was so angry!

Lou Xi Yan suddenly laughed heartily and stood up. He narrated: “Tomorrow, at noon, I will request the Ying Tian Hall to review the case file and inquire the details of the case. I will authorize a special standard of the Niu Jia family village to send ten people to go visit the source of the case. We will make a determination on whether or not the case will need to be re-investigated and to meet the prisoner afterward and then make a decision again!”

“Many thanks to Prime Minister Da ren!” the villagers listened to this good news and immediately knelt down to thank him. Only Zhuo Qing seemed to somewhat think and watch attentively at Lou Xi Yan. The way this man’s work apparently always made somebody unable to make sense of the matter.

Looking outside, the rain was gradually lighter, Lou Xi Yan no longer talked and was ready to leave. Qi Tian Yu chased after Lou Xi Yan and frowningly asked: “You really do not want to see the little beauty?”

Having swept Zhuo Qing’s gaze, Lou Xi Yan indifferently smiled: “Just let him look after her for me.” Zhuo Qing could not help but to feel stiff all over. His smile always gave people the feeling of horror!

He walked to the gate of the ancestral hall. Lou Xi Yan suddenly stopped his footsteps and looked back at Zhuo Qing. He said: “You must appear tomorrow.”

“Why?” It wasn’t any of her concern?

“If you do not appear, then they also do not need to come.”

After throwing down that sentence, Lou Xi Yan’s party rapidly disappeared in the rain within the neighborhood.

“Hey—” Zhuo Qing was dumbfounded. This is.... Who is intimidating who... Ahhh...!!

# Record of Washed Grievances Chapter 10: Committed Suicide?

**The following day.**

**Ying Tian Town Hall.**

The spacious, bright lobby with a just and honorable plaque hanging in the middle. A carved jade embedded in a mahogany wood frame against the background of a few shining golden characters. It was extremely dazzling. Two rows of brilliant and strong bailiffs, dressing in crimson red were standing at the left and right of the lobby. They were holding a long stick and were somewhat dignified.

The villagers who were allowed to visit could only stand in the lobby, almost had to stand and go to the outside of the building. Since this was already advantageous, in this way, the villagers were still feeling nervous and stood unified in one body while hanging down their heads. The atmosphere was continuously every depressing for everybody, except for one person.

Lou Xi Yan's gazes swept past the hands ring chest. His back was against the door frame. At the top of the doorstep was that lone picture of a cruel noble with the attitude that was incompatible with the atmosphere of the dazzling lobby.

Lou Xi Yan had an official hat to cover up more than half of his face. Even if it was insufficient to see his facial expression, Lou Xi Yan could guess that at this moment he would face the angry intention of the villagers. Anticipating it here, Lou Xi Yan thought his mood was rather delighted without any reason. Someone's angry intention would grow without restraint.

Noon, 12 o'clock? That's right!

These idiots did not sleep one whole night last night. They kept tossing from one side to the other side not knowing what to do. At dawn today, the genius, she had to handle and support them to deal with the issue at the Ying Tian Hall's front door. Welcoming the sunshine to wait foolishly until now!!

Her clothes were once again thick and rough. Her back was already covered with sweat and wet. The cover hat made her breathless on her forehead. Her face was already dripping with sweat. Staring at the official's front table to see Lou Xi Yan's whole body was fresh and relaxed, Zhuo Qing was extremely irritated.

Today's Lou Xi Yan was very different than last night's. He was wearing a white jade Zijin crown hat (an official hat), dressed in a dark golden robe, embroidered with a semi-reclining volts gold unicorn on his breast. His eyes were sparkling and ready to go. On the black brocade silk belt, it hanged a bluish green jade girdle ornament. His face had the same bright smile, but no one would dare to act rashly in front of him.

"This Official calls to pay respects to Prime Minister Lou Xi Yan." Ministry of Justice, Assistant Minister, Wu Zhi Gang, was half kneeling. His heart was nervous and anxious. Ministry of Personnel. Although Ministry of Justice was overseen by Prime Minister Lou, but on weekdays, the criminal cases were reviewed by the Division of Adult Prison Management and Staff. It was absolutely impossible to see the Prime Minister in the town hall. He was only a 4th rank minor official, how can he not be terrified! To set foot in this building and sit beside this chair.

Slightly raising his hand, Lou Xi Yan laughed and turned around: "No need for courtesy." Wu Zhi Gang straightened up slowly, but how could he dare to sit down? Prime Minister Lou was here, so how could he dare to sit next to him!

Wu Zhi Gang respectfully asked: "Prime Minister Lou came today was ....."

Lou Xi Yan smiled lightly: "Several hundreds of villagers joined to write a letter for Lin Bo Kang's behalf to cry out a grievance in regard to the stolen currency from army provisions, how do you see it?" Lou Xi Yan asked voluntarily.

Wu Zhi Gang's complexion was white, respecting with both of his hands, he quickly replied: "Prime Minister Lou, this incident was entirely based on human testimony and material evidence. Lin Bo Kang himself had already pleaded guilty, absolutely no miscarriage of justice."

"Absolutely no miscarriage of justice?" Lou Xi Yan watched towards the lobby to see the married woman and asked: "Lin Shi, you may have something to say."

Zhuo Qing slightly looked up, only to see a married woman about 50 years of age had already knelt down, her voice somewhat trembling, but nevertheless answered very loud and clear: "Prime Minister, this woman citizen, on the 18th day of this month went to the government office to visit my convicted husband. Husband said that he hadn't stolen the currency from army provisions, he was accused wrongly!"

The married woman's speaking voice hadn't stopped, but Wu Zhi Gang already unable to resist to restrain her and urgently said: "Ridiculous! It was written in black and white and he had personally signed the confession, how could he speak injustice already?! The army division old gentleman, quickly bring a file to give Prime Minister Lou to look over!"

"Yes, yes, yes." A straight and timid male that was standing aside immediately charged into the back hall. Soon he was clasping one file in his hand and came out running. Wu Zhi Gang hurriedly took the file, with respectful hands, he handed it over: "Prime Minister Lou, this is the case file, the entire human testimony and material evidence. He must not renege to admit his guilty confession!"

Zhuo Qing was partly near the porch, with a pair of bright eyes cast sidelong to glance at Lou Xi Yan, waiting to watch him react. He was trying to find Lin Bo Kang's wife to come over. She surely had already seen the file before, only one evening, what could he still do?! This man had reached the highest official position at a young age, not without a reason.

Sure enough, Lou Xi Yan had not taken the file, rather he was having a headache and sighed: "You all arbitrarily asserted absolutely no miscarriage of justice while the others kept on saying and crying out a grievance. Since this is the case, just take a hold of the prisoner to come up. I want to personally inquire."

Wu Zhi Gang just stared blankly, but also not dare to speak anything. Facing the side of the two bright bailiffs and in a low voice stated: "Both of you quickly go to get the prisoner, Lin Bo Kang, to come."

"Yes." The bailiffs accepted the order and went.

Unexpectedly, this was already half an hour. Zhuo Qing faintly felt that this

whole thing was somewhat not encouraging. Lou Xi Yan's complexion actually did not look upset, he was only tapping a chair with his hand. However, Wu Zhi Gang painstakingly stood by Prime Minister Lou's side, his forehead seeped out a thin layer of sweat and he also did not dare to move easily while waiting for the two bailiffs to come back.

Wu Zhi Gang barely scolded: "Why did it take this long?"

Looking at their soulless bodies, he anxiously said: "Where's the person?"

The two people gasped incessantly. One person confusedly turned around: "Reporting to Superior, Lin Bo Kang... he committed suicide to escape punishment early in the morning today."

Committing suicide to escape punishment? Zhuo Qing was paying attention to Wu Zhi Gang's expression secretly. He heard the news and afterwards he almost couldn't stand steadily. His complexion was white and then changed to greenish black. It seemed that he was also frightened and stressed out that he could be blamed.

Lou Xi Yan did not say anything. His brows were wrinkled softly. Perhaps he also didn't anticipate that a person would die unexpectedly! Could it be, it was a real suicide?! Zhuo Qing subconsciously rejected her thought because it was highly coincidental. The timing control was just too good.

"Benefactor died?!" The villagers all around opened their eyes wide and big. All didn't dare to believe. They felt like rushing forth to go in but Prime Minister Lou was on the scene so they could not dare to rush in. They could only worry helplessly.

"Husband..." Madam Lin immediately collapsed to the ground. She hung down her head and sobbed endlessly.

A thought came to her mind, Madam Lin suddenly got up to stand up and was pointing at Wu Zhi Gang and she wailed: "My husband was accused wrongly. He would not kill himself. It was all of you who surely killed my husband." Madam Lin crazily threw herself at Wu Zhi Gang, only to meet the two sides of the bailiffs who used a long staff to stop her. But his mouth was still shouting and cursing her.

Wu Zhi Gang recovered and shouted angrily: “Shut up, ignorant woman, stop acting like a child in the court of law! Take her away!” Wu Zhi Gang looked toward Lou Xi Yan carefully, was afraid that he would get angry. Luckily Prime Minister Lou’s facial expression and appearance seemed to be indifferent to that shrew’s arguments.

“Let go of me!” Madam Lin struggled desperately. After all, she was still pressed against two big men. Both bailiffs were at her left and right sides and dragging her to go out.

“Hold on!” Just before Madam Lin was being thrown outside, a cold voice echoed: “There is no need to overtake a person urgently. Suicide or homicide, you can see a dead body and will know it naturally.”

# Record of Washed Grievances Chapter 11: Autopsy (Part 1)

Thank you for the nice comments from everybody and the “likes”. I just want everybody to know that I read all of the comments. Without further a do, here’s chapter 11.

This chapter was edited by Din2.

“There is no need to overtake a person urgently. Suicide or homicide, you can see a dead body and will know it naturally.”

Dead body will absolutely not lie! A cold voice was echoing faintly from the lobby. Not only particularly ear-piercing, but also one strange person with a gray Chinese style gown appeared.

Wu Zhi Gang shouted impatiently: “Who are you?! You have the nerve to make a disturbance in the main hall!”

“I...” What should she reply? Zhuo Qing lightly pulled her lips and lazily answered: “I just passed by.”

Passed by!! All the people were stupefied. This... What kind of answer was this? Lou Xi Yan was stroking his nose. He was slightly coughing in order not to laugh heartily. Passed by?! Luckily, he could think up an answer like that?!

He he he simply despised the court!! Wu Zhi Gang’s complexion was black. Ignorant young child, acting like this inside the court! What kind of a place does he think the court is!

For a short while, Wu Zhi Gang forgot that Lou Xi Yan was still by his side. He walked to the middle of the lobby, pointing his finger at Zhuo Qing angrily said: “Ridiculous, guard! Bring him to me...”

“Wu Daren.” The calling was not light nor heavy, but it felt as if a basin of cold water was pour down on his head.

Wu Zhi Gang clear mindedly and hurriedly turned around with respect attitude

and said: "Prime Minister, what is your instruction?"

Getting up and stroking his wrinkled cloth, Lou Xi Yan asked: "Where is the body?"

Wu Zhi Gang looked over to the side toward the bailiffs. The bailiffs in a flurry reported: "Still in the prison."

Passing through the lobby, Lou Xi Yan walked over to the side door. Wu Zhi Gang immediately got up to follow and urgently asked: "Prime Minister Lou, this is your....?"

"Let the coroner do the autopsy. Ben Xiang (I) want to personally supervise to watch if it's really a suicide or homicide in the end!" Lou Xi Yan had an indifferent attitude. Wu Zhi Gang could not see if Prime Minister Lou was happy or angry, it made him terrified and his sleeveless undergarment was already wet.

Madam Lin listened to the request for an autopsy. She once again wanted to step forward. Lin Bo Kang suddenly died. The villagers thought as a group and powerfully stepped forward to the side door. The bailiffs' long rods already stroked unexpectedly and stated: "You all can not go in!"

Madam Lin urgently grabbed the long rod with her hand to shake it out ferociously. One side collided to the other side and she cried: "Why? That was really my husband ah!"

Wu Si's tall and strong body blocked madam Lin to the side. His simple and honest face requested: "Big brother government officials, please let us in!"

"Out of the question!" The bailiffs said without even glancing once at the villagers. They were completely ignorant.

Zhuo Qing was half leaning against the door frame. She stayed leisurely to watch the tug of war between the villagers and the bailiffs. They did not understand anything because even if they went in, it would be useless. It would be better off to pray that the honorable Prime Minister Lou to be wise and judge the case honestly.

Yawning, Zhuo Qing turned around to go out. She was sleepy to death. Ever since she was brought to this place, an unfathomable mystery started. She just had not had a good sleep. She wanted to look for a place to rest.

Again, thinking to accept what she should do, her feet were barely out of the door step when she heard a clear and cold like spring water's male voice said: "Let them come in."

The person who came was Prime Minister Lou's personal bodyguard. The bailiffs looked at him with a glimpse. They did not dare to stop and immediately released the long rods. The villagers along with Madam Lin rushed to go in together.

Thinking that the voice was very pleasant to hear, Zhuo Qing curiously turned around and saw a white shadow with astonishment beside the side door just now. He was Lou Xi Yan's imperial bodyguard, she presumed. Slightly squinting her eyes, Zhuo Qing secretly sized him up to estimate his height, about 190 with snow white skin, dark brown hair and he was very well matched. His facial features were clear, sky-blue eyes that were similar to a colored glass. Summing it all up, he looked very handsome and was an outrageously beautiful male. However, the most special was not these features. His face had not had too many expressions. It did not look grim nor gentle. One type of personality traits that was set apart from the other people. She did not like this type but still had to admit that he was fascinating!

The man suddenly was facing her direction and walked to come over. Zhuo Qing pulled the brim of her hat lower to wait for him to go past her. Nevertheless, he stopped next to her and with his cold voice said calmly: "Let's go."

"Go where?" Zhuo Qing pretended to be naive.

"I did not mind to touch." He replied along with his cold and indifferent attitude. His pale hand tightly grabbed Zhuo Qing's arm.

"Stop! I will walk on my own." How awfully annoying to use so much strength! Mo Bai slowly released his hand. He did not say anything and walked ahead. Zhuo Qing turned over and rolled her eyes. So, actually, as it turned out, a bodyguard at this era must certainly exhibit ruthlessness! Unwillingly, she followed him to enter the prison cell.

When she crossed over him, Zhuo Qing snorted coldly: "Considering that you have one pair of such beautiful eyes, I will not bicker with you." Or else, she was

still a person who had a bad habit to hold a grudge!

Mo Bai stared blankly. Beautiful? Because of these pair of eyes, he was abandoned by his family. People said that he was a monster. He had no relative and no friend. Even there was no one who dared to look straight in his eyes. These kind of eyes, he said beautiful? With a hint of mockery in his eyes and the same pale face, he was still the same as before, constantly indifferent.

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At Qi Guai Ba Guai Prison.

Zhuo Qing finally arrived at Lin Bo Kang's prison cell. Zhuo Qing deliberately observed the surrounding near the prison cell. It was just located in the innermost cell of the entire prison. There was no bailiff who came in. This was just simply unseen in a prison cell. Furthermore, she was not sure if it was a coincidence or on purpose. How many empty prison cell was there in the vicinity? In other words, whatever happened in the interior of the prison cell, it would basically be hard to find any witness for this matter.

The doorway of the prison cell was already crowded with people. Zhuo Qing stood at the outside but she could still see the high beam where the dead body was hanging. The complexion of the deceased appeared purple and the face had an obvious swelling. The facial skin had scattered punctate hemorrhage (the escape of blood from a ruptured vessel). It should be because he was dead by choking for sure. Once more looking down....

Zhuo Qing's brows knitted unconsciously. "Respect to Prime Minister Daren!" Behind her, a male voice echoed suddenly. Zhuo Qing turned around to look at a 30 years old middle age man who was hurriedly facing Lou Xi Yan to give a salute with both of his hands.

"Who are you?" The middle age man was asked. Lou Xi Yan's eyes just stopped temporarily at Zhuo Qing's body while his mouth was asking the middle age man. Just now, he was watching the dead body attentively with his concentrated and sharp expression. Jing Sa investigated for the whole night yesterday evening. Niu Jia Village absolutely did not have this disfigured youngster. Who exactly was he? That he would plunder whether or not this was exactly his idea. What was the intention? Lou Xi Yan was very interested to know everything about him!

The middle age man respectfully answered: “I (Xiaoren was the original word used here), Wang Bing Sheng, Ying Town Hall’s coroner. I have already had over 10 years of experience dealing with dead body examination.”

Coroner? That was ancient times forensic investigator. Speaking of autopsy, his face showed self-confidence, even somewhat with a conceited look. Zhuo Qing’s irritable mood for the day had finally become a little bit better. She really wanted to see how he inspected the dead body.

“Then you should examine the dead body carefully to check if he committed suicide or was murdered.” He only took into consideration the details of the case, but did not expect that if this was homicide, this could implicate a big judicial case at Ying Town Hall’s prison. How was it simple?

“Yes.” Wang Bing Sheng entered the prison cell.

The bailiffs already took the dead body down. Again, the purple color of the face and the swelling, the almost unrecognizable appearance and the stiffness of the body which was lied down on the ground, it suddenly hit Madam Lin and she collapsed and cried: “Husband...”

“Madam, be careful!” The villagers landed their arms to support her. Madam Lin retreated to one side.

Zhuo Qing took advantage to approach the prison cell, only to see that the coroner lifted up the deceased head to inspect the bruises and again looked at the deceased hands and feet. Not even 5 minutes later, he just stood and walked to the front of Lou Xi Yan.

Reporting to supervisor, he said: “Reporting to Prime Minister Daren, the dead body’s complexion was dark purple, both hands and feet were downward verticals and also the foot had a sort of burning bruises. The neck was dark purple color and was strapped tightly. The bruises were straight and extended to the left and right ears. Therefore, it was apparent that he committed suicide by hanging on an object that looked like a belt.”

Suicide? Lou Xi Yan muttered to himself for a moment and once more said: “What time did he die?”

Hesitating for a moment, Wang Bing Sheng answered: “Probably two shichen

hours ago (about 4 hours).”

Wrong! Even a normal person could see from only looking at the livor mortis (skin discoloration after death) that the deceased died at least 10 hours or longer! Standing at the outside of the prison cell and with the extremely far away from the dead body, Zhuo Qing could not conclude the cause of death. What’s more, if she uttered rashly, she would create difficulties to herself. Looking towards the front concentratedly, she stared at Lou Xi Yan who was looking at the dead body. Zhuo Qing decided that she wanted to start a discussion first!

“Truly strange ah!” Zhuo Qing pretended to be amazed and shouted: “This man was indeed lucky to commit suicide and could still make himself presentable nicely. He changed into his new clothes and shoes. Oddly enough though, he had not combed his hair!”

# Record of Washed Grievances Chapter 12: Autopsy (Part 2)

Since I'm bored and tired waiting at Narita Airport for my last flight to visit home, here is a bonus chapter for you all.

This chapter was edited by Din2.

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Once Zhuo Qing finished talking, everyone immediately looked at the dead body. That's right. His clothes were cleaned and well-ironed and his shoes were spotless. Somewhat, his hair was carelessly bound. Not to mention that he was a criminal in prison for two months, how could he have new clothes and shoes?

Wu Zhi Gang asked loudly: "Where was the bailiff who guarded the prison last night?"

One medium build man stood aside silently next to a small bailiff. He hurriedly stepped forward one step and whispered: "Yes, it was I (Xiaoren) and Liu Wu."

"What's the matter? How could he change into new clothes?"

The bailiff sheepishly replied: "Report back to Daren, Lin Family's housekeeper Li Ming came to visit Lin Bo Kang yesterday night. He scolded Lin Bo Kang because he did not wash his face and rinse his mouth for so many days. He hoped to deliver one set of new clean clothes. We saw them as master and servant with deep emotions. He also only brought the clothes. We let him go in but he only stayed inside for one incense stick time (about 30 min) and then he left."

One incense stick time seemed somewhat too short to kill someone.

After being silent for a while, Lou Xi Yan asked in a low voice: "After Li Ming left, you all could go in to check on Lin Bo Kang whether or not he was still alive."

Although Lou Xi Yan had not gotten angry but the small bailiff still did not dare to raise his head and watch him.

He closed his eyes anxiously to tell about yesterday's situation: "Answering to

Prime Minister, when Li Ming came, it just so happened that it was windy and raining. The biggest storm. The tree outside of the prison was blown by the wind and fell down to smash the outside of the prison door. We were occupied to carry the branch. A moment later, Li Ming came out and still helped us to move it together. He left afterwards. Then at that time our clothes were drenched and we had to change our clothes. It was already very late at night. There was no patrol in the prison cell until just recently when Daren wanted to bring the criminal. Only then we found..." He was dead...

"One group of idiots!" Wu Zhi Gang's palm was resting on the small bailiff's official hat. These group of brats unexpectedly made a fool of himself in front of Prime Minister Lou. It probably made Prime Minister Lou to believe that he was this kind of person that couldn't supervise and control the prison!

Lou Xi Yan absolutely did not see him in this situation and said heavily: "Li Ming." Li Ming was the last person to see Lin Bo Kang alive. He surely knew what happened!

"Yes." The small bailiff hurriedly ran to go out.

The dead body was still laying on the ground like that, it was really somewhat scary for some people. Wu Zhi Gang hurriedly pandered and said: "Prime Minister Daren, this dead body's examination was done and there was a heavy yin air in the prison (from yin-yang, yin represents dark while yang represents light/bright). You should first rest in the lobby. Do not get infected by the bad luck."

Lou Xi Yan turned around and just happened to see Zhuo Qing's two eyes that were watching at the dead body tentatively. She already stepped out of the prison cell but stopped when Lou Xi Yan suddenly asked: "What do you say?" Asking one youngster this question seemed ridiculous, but Lou Xi Yan's intuition thought that this youngster's answer would not be the same.

"I..." Zhuo Qing hesitated for a moment. However, knowing that the cause of death of the deceased was suspicious while watching without doing anything were contrary to her professional ethics and code of conducts.

With a sigh, Zhuo Qing answered: "I want to go in to have a look."

"Impudent!" This was an eccentric youngster who was at the main hall a

moment ago. He wanted to make a noise on this situation now.

The bailiff's were about to throw him out when Zhuo Qing was trying to come into the prison cell.

Lou Xi Yan's mood was rather good and he smiled when he spoke: "Let him go in."

After Lou Xi Yan spoke, Wu Zhi Gang was not happy but also did not dare to oppose it. After all, Lou Xi Yan had so many years of experiences in the officialdom and he could see that Prime Minister Lou extremely favored this youngster ah...

Zhuo Qing entered the prison cell and squatted down beside the dead body. She swept a glance at the neck that had bruises. Then Zhuo Qing used her fingers to stretch and enter the deceased's hair. She delicately inspected the head and afterwards lifted up the neck to examine the back of it. After looking at it, Zhuo Qing paused and pressed the mouth of the deceased for a moment, a trace of saliva flowed out along the lips.

Sure enough, just like what she expected, Zhuo Qing held the deceased's arm. It was slightly hard and couldn't be bend completely. The dead body was very stiff. Obviously rigor mortis (when the limb of the corpses is stiff after 3-4 hours after death). She pulled up the sleeve of the garment and there was livor mortis (discoloration after death) on his arm. Furthermore, there was some crisscross bruises but they looked like old injury. The interrogation under torture to extort a confession should be a fact.

Zhuo Qing looked carefully. In the eyes of Wu Zhi Gang, she just liked to make trouble without a reason, deliberately making things complicated. He did not feel like looking at her.

Wu Zhi Gang seized an opportunity to face Lou Xi Yan and analyzed: "Prime Minister Daren, based on what I (Xia guan was the original word used) saw and since this was already ascertained to be a suicide, Lin Bo Kang's case should be closed early. It should be premeditated early by Lin Bo Kang to request Li Ming to come over and deliver clean clothes so that he could use the belt to commit suicide."

Lou Xi Yan indifferently smiled but did not speak. His gaze just stayed

temporarily at Zhuo Qing's body. Wu Zhi Gang felt embarrassed.

Actually Zhuo Qing did not disappoint him at all. She did not easily and repeatedly threw out a sentence: "What if it was not a suicide?"

Not a suicide? Lou Xi Yan smiled was even bigger. He just knew that this youngster would give him a nice surprise.

Wu Zhi Gang just stared blankly.

Wang Bing Sheng took a lead to shout: "Nonsense!"

Where did this youngster come to unexpectedly dare to call the outcome of his inspection in front of the Prime Minister Daren. How could he endure this?! Going to the side of the dead body and pointing at the neck, Wang Bing Sheng was staring at Zhuo Qing and said: "If he was hung after he was already dead, the bruises on the neck would be white and they were not purple! The four limbs of the dead body would naturally hang down and the foot would look like a colored patch burning bruises. This was precisely the most advantage proof that he hang himself! You do not know anything so don't talk nonsense!"

Completely ignoring his shouting, Zhuo Qing slightly lowered her head and in a low voice called: "That blue eyes guy, you come here and help me for a second." Not having any assistant was so inconvenient! The blue eyes guy, Mo Bai stared blankly all of a sudden. Finally he walked to squat down next to Zhuo Qing. Following her command, he gently rolled the dead body over.

Mo Bai unexpectedly would help her. Lou Xi Yan actually did not expect that the indifferent and unfeeling Mo Bai's heart would move and he was willing to help. For what reason was this youngster's order could move him? Lou Xi Yan was looking at Zhuo Qing's back calmly. He was waiting to watch what good show he would be producing.

Getting a complete ignorant from this truly nobody, Wang Bing Sheng swallowed his voice and did not open his mouth to criticize anymore.

Zhuo Qing looked over at the dead body's back and faintly asked: "If the person is strapped tightly while he loses consciousness first and then hangs on the beam of the roof, isn't the dead body's mark will also appear the same?"

"This..." Wang Bing Sheng was immediately speechless.

Not letting him ponder over too long, Zhuo Qing slightly raised her hand and coldly said: “I just asked you, yes or no!”

Under the brim of everyone’s strict line of sight, Wang Bing Sheng’s mind was panicking. He had a second thought, however the other side was just a youngster. What was there for him to get panicky? Gently coughing to cover up his confused mind a moment ago, Wang Bing Sheng loudly answered: “This was a possibility, but this was simply your guess. What evidence did you have that he was strapped while he lost consciousness?!” He wanted to see what capability this youngster had!

Evidence? Zhuo Qing sarcastically smiled and suddenly got up.

# Record of Washed Grievances Chapter 13: Autopsy (Part 3)

I'm going to release the chapter every Sundays instead of Mondays. It'll be easier for me to post it on the weekend. Enjoy!

This chapter was edited by Din2.

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Evidence? Zhuo Qing smiled sarcastically and got up suddenly: "I let him tell you all where the evidence is!"

He? Everyone followed Zhuo Qing's gaze to look at Lin Bo Kang's already stiff body that was laying on the ground. Obviously it was already a dead body, what did he want to tell them where the evidence was?! Everyone could breathe the smell of the dead body and could not help to come out to retreat one step themselves, except one peaceful face of Lou Xi Yan.

"First, explain about the cause of death."

Zhuo Qing pointed her finger at the neck and said: "Hold and lift his neck up."

He really thought him as his servant! Mo Bai's heart was secretly muttering, but his hand somewhat could not help to do according to Zhuo Qing's command. He gently lifted Lin Bo Kang's neck up. There were bruises in between the crease of the neck. It could be seen that the neck was strapped tightly with clear bruises.

"The dead body did not have any other clear fatal injury or any sign of poisoning. Obviously it was a sign of suffocation and the cause of death was solid because of the belt around the neck and he was choke to death."

Zhuo Qing just now was barely speaking a few sentences, Wang Bing Sheng immediately scoffed at her. Just now what did he say that was different, deliberately making something unnecessarily complicated!

Not taking part in his dispute, Zhuo Qing crouched. Her finger pointed at the deceased's neck which was strapped tightly with bruises. She coldly said: "The

deceased neck had two directions of bruises. To hang himself to die was also possible that the two types of bruises would appear. The bruises generally and comparatively would be borderline even and neat, moreover the tongue and the throat bones suffered fractures. This happened very seldom, but the deceased's two direction type of bruises should not be completely like this. Thyroid cartilage was located below and parallel with the body, this strip of bruises happened precisely when the murderer tightly strapped the deceased that was already unconscious because he was fighting to struggle to get free, therefore the cuticle was peeled off under the skin. These bruises were deep and clear, they appeared dark black. The other strip of bruises was the murderer's fatal blow by hanging him at the beam of the roof to cause his death. At this time the deceased already did not have consciousness so the bruises were lighter color. The deceased's cervical vertebra clearly was broken. This was the outcome when his neck was already twisted strongly and violently."

Lou Xi Yan entered the prison and examined the deceased neck carefully. It was indeed just like Zhuo Qing's explanation. There were two types of bruises, one dark and one light colors. It was absolutely distinct.

Wu Zhi Gang was extremely unwilling but also did not have the chance to be angry so he followed and went in. Ferociously staring at Wang Bing Sheng quickly, Wu Zhi Gang secretly cursed. This idiot, who was this capable coroner at the end!!

Catching Wu Zhi Gang's staring, Wang Bing Sheng suddenly recovered. No wonder, a moment ago, this youngster was so arrogant, it turned out that he had some ability to work hard and think deeply. Wang Bing Sheng aggressively refuted: "If he was strangled, the deceased neck should have the bruises that crossed over the back of the neck. The back of his neck obviously did not have it! The top of the neck appeared to be deep and different than the two types of bruises. It was also possible that he struggled prior to death to create this!"

"Take off his outer garment." Zhuo Qing said gently, but who could seem to endure silently.

Mo Bai slowly raised his head, but only to see Zhuo Qing's fisted hands kept relaxing and tightening. After several times, Zhuo Qing finally stood up. Facing Wang Bing Sheng's provocation face, she coldly said: "You simply do not deserve

to be a coroner!”

Wang Bing Sheng was in fury and said: “What did you say?!” He was the Ying Tian Hall’s coroner for how many years and did countless autopsies. This youngster thought to himself that he understood some knacks and dared to say that he did not deserve it!

“As a coroner, you can only speak for the dead. He used his body to tell you how he died, when he died! What experience he had to go through before his death! And you completely ignored it. Even, you did not carefully inspect the deceased body’s every bruise, every detail and just arbitrarily made a conclusion. Just because of your words, it was possible that he died in vain. The murderer would also go unpunished!”

She could tolerate an inexperienced forensic investigator as all the knowledge and experience could be learned but she could not tolerate an undisciplined attitude as a forensic investigator who worked carelessly, was stubborn and liked to use strong words to quibble! Undisturbed and cold voice once again echoed inside the prison.

Not only Wang Bing Sheng who was blushed red with shame, Lou Xi Yan was also shocked in his heart. The person whom Lou Xi Yan met the first time was completely different than this person now. He was somewhat icily arrogant and crafty at the first time they met, but he was firm, persistent, strong, calm and profound now. Should he really believe that he was a youngster originally? Lou Xi Yan was puzzled.

“Husband...” The prison cell was quiet for a period and somewhat frightened the people until the mournful cried and yelled let everyone recovered together.

Mo Bai already took off Lin Bo Kang’s clothes a moment ago. There were many large and small, deep and shallow wounds that were somewhat already healed and some new wounds. Although they all seemed like old injury but at this moment, it looked as if they were as grim as new.

Madam Lin almost threw herself at the dead body and was sobbing. Zhuo Qing quietly said: “Wu Si, hold and help her to the side, do not obstruct me.” “Oh!” Wu Si went up quickly to take along Madam Lin to the side. Miss Zhuo Qing somewhat became different, but he could not tell where the difference

was. Her words were always hard to disobey.

No longer paying attention to the shameless Wang Bing Sheng who was standing at the side, Zhuo Qing crouched one more time. She lightly leaned on one side of the deceased's shoulder. Mo Bai understood it clearly and conveniently helped him to hold and turn the deceased over to the side. Zhuo Qing softly raised her eyebrows. This rough man is intelligent and can be a decent assistant!

"The reason why the top of the neck did not have a full strip of bruises around it was because his back was pushed against something that was hard. Using strength to tighten the belt caused the suffocation and thus leaving behind a trace of hard object on the deceased's back."

Sure enough, two strips of purple color bruises showed up on Lin Bo Kang's back. Old injury would be different. These two strips of bruises were dark in color and the skin was damaged. The wound was new. What stuff was it? Everyone looked closely all over the place to try to find a similar murder weapon. Lou Xi Yan took the lead to walk to the side of the gate door. Half squatting his body and not knowing what or where to look for.

Not understanding what Prime Minister Lou was doing, Wu Zhi Gang was also checking for a long time. Eventually, he found the stuff that could cause the two strips of bruises on the deceased's back. The dimension and thickness of the prison door was like an identical wooden pole. Pleasantly surprised, he called out: "I found it. It's the wooden gate of the prison door!"

Groping at the top of the wooden pole for a moment, Lou Xi Yan softly lifted the corner of his mouth and slowly got up. He also found it. As if she was waiting for Lou Xi Yan to come over, Zhuo Qing lifted up the deceased's finger after he turned around and came, then said: "The deceased was strapped tightly outside the door and lost consciousness, because of the struggle, his fingertips still remained in the sawdust."

Two people's gaze met together for a moment. Zhuo Qing pulled down the brim of her hat to obstruct Lou Xi Yan's eyes once again.

Wu Zhi Gang nodded and appeared to understand clearly and said: "So, Lin Bo Kang was really murdered!!"

Turning around to look at the small bailiff, he asked: “Who also had entered the prison cell today?!”

Thinking hard, the small bailiff sullenly answered: “Except those two who came to bring the criminal, nobody had come to the prison just now.”

“Nonsense!” Wu Zhi Gang cursed: “How did Lin Bo Kang get murdered if nobody came?”

Really, nobody! The small bailiff was having unspeakable bitter suffering. He could only lower his head to curse.

“Because the deceased already died yesterday evening!” Zhuo Qing was shaking her head. They just can not allow her to finish the investigation of this case? This habit is really annoying!

“Yesterday evening?”

# Record Of Washed Grievances Chapter 14: Criminal Prison Division (Part 1)

This chapter was edited by Din2.

“Yesterday evening?!”

Wu Zhi Gang’s pair of little eyes opened widely, ferociously was glaring at the embarrassed Wang Bing Sheng. He scolded: “What exactly did you say that was correct? The time of death was even unclear. What kind of a coroner are you!”

“Dead body...” Wang Bing Sheng’s even voice trembled. He gently and cautiously looked at Zhuo Qing’s glimpse to see that she kept silent.

He whispered an answered just now: “Dead body appeared to look like this type of the strip of burning bruises and it was stiff at the beginning. This was an indication that the deceased just barely died not long ago...”

Zhuo Qing slowly raised her head. Wang Bing Sheng immediately did not dare to say anything anymore and withdrew. Just a moment ago, he saw the bruises on the deceased’s back. He was really ashamed and unable to show his face. It was because he was excessively over confidence on himself so he would neglect such an important point. This eccentric youngster said and also figured out something that was not wrong. He was really ashamed.

Wang Bing Sheng mumbled and also was not able to say anything. Zhuo Qing coldly said: “You, come here.”

What is he up to?! Wang Bing Sheng stumped for words to consider if he should step forward or not. Looking at his face that was still somehow guarded, Zhuo Qing impatiently shouted: “Come here!” What is he doing being so slow, she can still eat him!

Wang Bing Sheng swallowed his saliva and still walked slowly behind Zhuo Qing. He also did not know what was going on himself. He felt old to confront this individual who took charge and wrapped up tightly as a youngster. Overall, he felt incessantly lacking in his confidence.

Lou Xi Yan's hands were at his back, forefingers were tapping lightly, face was constantly soft with a scholarly cultured smile. But he was watching attentively at Zhuo Qing's eyes that were exceptionally bright.

Squatting at the deceased's foot, Zhuo Qing calmly explained: "This type of strip that appeared after death was called livor mortis (the type of discoloration on the body after death). Under normal circumstances, it would show about two hours after death..."

Incorrect, what's the measure of time that's being used here... Shichen (two hour periods of the modern time)? Really troublesome!

Converting secretly, Zhuo Qing once again continued to say: "One to two shichen (two to four hours) time after death, it would begin to appear. Three to four shichen (six to eight hours) time after death, it would clearly visible. This length of time, the livor mortis would maybe disappear but when you released the hand, it would re-appear once again. After six shichen (twelve hours) time of death, the livor mortis would link together into one piece and deepen in color. At this moment, the livor mortis already could not completely disappear, only a little fade, after stopped pressing the livor mortis, the recovery to the primary color was also slow. After twelve shichen (twenty four hours) time of death, even if you used a finger to oppress the livor mortis, it would no longer change the color. It would also no longer disappear."

Wang Bing Sheng listened very seriously, but nevertheless his eyebrows were wrinkled deeply. Do not believe? Zhuo Qing pointed at the livor mortis, said: "You press it."

Wang Bing Sheng nodded, he really wanted to seek the confirmation and used his forefinger to press the livor mortis with some strength. After he released the livor mortis, it was somewhat faded and a moment later it slowly resumed to the primary color. According to her theory a moment ago, the deceased indeed died about 6 shichen hours (12 hours) ago.

Wu Zhi Gang firmly and anxiously asked: "Wang Bing Sheng, what he was saying, is it true?!" If it was true, Li Ming was the biggest suspect!

"This..." Wang Bing Sheng hesitated, looked a quick glance at the side of the youngster. He still had to report back to his supervisor and said: "I do not know. I

only know that the livor mortis would appear on the dead body within 2 shichen time (4 hours). The longer the time of death, the deeper the strip, as to what he was actually saying, I... am really not clear.”

Shamelessly speaking, he really did not know that looking at the strip could see the accurate time of death. If it was at the beginning, he would surely reject the youngster’s explanation, but when he was listening to the youngster’s explanation a moment ago, the youngster’s words were irrefutable. He really did not dare to rush to judgment.

Wu Zhi Gang was very angry when he heard that Wang Bing Sheng did not know whether or not the youngster’s explanation was true. He shouted: “How did this official know then, what he was saying was the truth or empty words?”

Slightly sighing and casting glances at Zhuo Qing, Wu Zhi Gang asked in a loud voice: “How did you proof that you spoke the truth?!”

He started to feel that this youngster was odd, but looking at Prime Minister Lou’s face, it was not good to attack him.

Oh, great!! The answer to this question is... Can not!! At this era, how could she proof that she spoke according to scientific knowledge? Could it be that she wanted to say that she had a master’s degree in medicine, the youngest forensic investigator and had issued so many piece of academic papers... Or the crime scene would become like a biological field anatomy class. She estimated that Madam Lin would rush to pounce and tear her apart!

Zhuo Qing laughed at herself and tried to rack her brain. She followed after these people from ancient times to exploit any excitement?! With her back was leaning against the cold jail prison wall, Zhou Qing answered: “I was telling the truth, but I did not know how to use your comprehension to be able to proof it.”

“In other words, you still can not proof it!”

Wu Zhi Gang wanted to attack but he was having a second thought about this youngster who seemed to have a rather good relationship with Prime Minister Lou. He was careful to proceed with the plan to attack him. He turned around towards Lou Xi Yan and quietly asked: “Prime Minister Lou, you saw...?”

He believed that the youngster was telling the truth. Then, in that case, he was

sure that he had a famous teacher who gave him direction and also a well-known person. If only he could announce his master's name, he could proof that he spoke the truth. He was not willing to speak so there was only one reason, he did not want to expose his identity!

He did not know that the more he tried to maintain his own secrecy, the more people would want to spy on it? Luckily, he did not feel anxious! Softly raising the corner of his mouth, Lou Xi Yan was about to speak when a cold, clear and persistent voice suddenly echoed: "He really spoke the truth."

All of the people were facing towards the coming of the sound. Zhuo Qing lightly lifted up a little bit of the brim of her hat, only to see a 30 years old man was standing at the outside of the prison cell. It seemed that he arrived a long time ago. He looked really tall, almost as tall as Lou Xi Yan, but Lou Xi Yan appeared even more meager. His appearance did not have Lou Xi Yan's smartness but he had one pair of deep and firm eyes. They did not resemble Lou Xi Yan's, that pair of eyes would forever carry a smile and thin pupils that would never let people felt what he was thinking clearly.

This person wore a simple dark blue robe, seemingly covered with some dust, looked as if he came from somewhere hurriedly to come over. Although it could not be regarded as in a difficult situation, but also inevitably somewhat all of a sudden. Unlike Lou Xi Yan who was always calm and appeared well dressed!! But also... Wait, why did she always seize and compare Lou Xi Yan?! She was crazy... Zhuo Qing had not thought clearly why this was not normal, when Wu Zhi Gang and the other bailiffs shouted all together: "Official Daren!!" (Original characters used here were 提刑司大人 – pls see my comment at the end of chapter).

Criminal Prison Division?! (Again the characters used here were 提刑司 which is the same as above without Daren 大人). Zhuo Qing raised her eyebrows towards him with more interests. It was unlikely that people who learned forensics did not know Song Ci (a forensic investigator expert during Southern Song Dynasty – was known as the Founding Father of forensic science in China). This person and Song Ci were in the same official positions, just did not know whether or not he had the same ability as Song Ci!

Facing everyone slightly while raising his two hands, Dan Yu Lan faced Lou Xi Yan, softly greeted with a low sound yet respectful, said: "Prime Minister Lou."

Lou Xi Yan stepped forward one step. He raised his eyes to tease mockingly and said “Official Dan, you are back at the precise time. Not too early or too late ah!

Dan Yu Lan remained unmoved, punctually answered: “This official should be the one responsible to inconvenience Prime Minister. It should not be.”

Lou Xi Yan was accustomed to the manner of not light nor heavy and laughed: “Official Dan’s words were too serious. You and I all are here in order to serve the effectiveness of the court.”

This was exactly the welcome tradition within the officialdom!? Zhuo Qing was bored and wanted to yawn and she was really beat up. She was really really sleepy!! She absolutely and honestly could not fight the yawn when Dan Yu Lan already entered the prison cell and came towards her: “You really spoke the truth, word for word. What is your name? What was the origin of the person? Which location did the master come from?”

Zhuo Qing’s corner of mouth was rigid thinking that this person’s line of questions were very rude!!

Sian’s comment:

The title of this chapter is 提点刑狱司 (ti dian xing yu si) which means literally a department that carries out punishment to prisoner. I decided to use Criminal Prison Division. I think this department is under the Ministry of Justice (刑部 – xing bu) and believe that Dan Yu Lan is the head of the 提刑司 (ti xing si), that’s why the author used 提刑司大人 (ti xing si da ren) whenever the common people or his subordinates addressed him thorough out this chapter and in chapter 15. My other Chinese friend said to call him “head of the prison guard” when I asked her about this but it sounded so unimportant. I believe his position should be quite high rank. My editor and I also couldn’t agree what title to use for him so I decided just to call him Official Daren for the common people/subordinates and Official Dan when Lou Xi Yan addressed him.

## Record Of Washed Grievances Chapter 15: Criminal Prison Division (Part 2)

Double posting for this week. I have to say that this author is killing me as most of the chapters end with cliff-hangers. I can't stop reading and doing the translation!

This chapter was edited by Din2.

She absolutely and honestly could not fight the yawn when Dan Yu Lan already entered the prison cell and came towards her: "You really spoke the truth, word for word. What is your name? What was the origin of the person? Which location did the master come from?"

Actually he already came as early as before the youngster lashed out at Wang Bing Sheng. From the beginning he kept silent about the cause of death, just wanted to know how much the youngster understood with regards to autopsy. Contrary to what anyone might expect, he had not let him disappointed.

The youngster's understanding towards livor mortis (the discoloration after death) was more than the average coroner. He was very thorough in his explanation. Dan Yu Lan knew himself that he was rude to ask, but his heart impatiently wanted to know this gray robe youngster's identity. Especially his master, what kind of a person could instruct and produce this kind of disciple.

Zhuo Qing's corner of mouth was rigid thinking that this person's line of questions was very rude!!

Putting down her embarrassment and covering her lips with hand, Zhuo Qing with a cold voice along with an obvious melancholy, answered: "Official Daren, I think you misunderstand one matter, I am not your subordinate, even more I am not a criminal. You have the right to question me, but whether or not I want to reply to your question will only depend on my mood."

Dan Yu Lan did not expect that he would answer like this and was absent-minded for a split second.

The corner of Lou Xi Yan's mouth had a smiling expression however it was also increasingly intense. His temperament was absolutely unrestrained, thinking about it this way, he was already polite to him last night.

"Impudent!" Fearing that Dan Yu Lan was angry, Wu Zhi Gang hastily berated: "Official Daren questioned you, you dare not to answer?!"

With both hands on her chest, Zhuo Qing did not get angry, instead mockingly laughed: "I am having a conversation with Official Daren, you dare to interrupt?!"

"You..." This, this, this was simply just a rebel!!

Wu Zhi Gang was so angry, his complexion and chest were violently moving up and down, his finger was incessantly trembling at Zhuo Qing. He wanted to speak a lot of words for a long time but yet had not been able to speak it out.

Zhuo Qing was somehow startled. It did not matter, he himself had not seemed to explain anything ah! It was unlikely to get a stroke, ok... These ancient time people's capabilities to resist and fight were rather weak! Zhuo Qing was really worry that he would faint. Luckily, both of the bailiffs brought up an older man to come in, breaking the awkward moment.

"Daren, Li Ming arrived."

Regarding Zhuo Qing's lacking in manners, Official Dan could only restraint his emotions. Prime Minister Lou was calmed and unruffled in the middle of the chaos. Wu Zhi Gang could not vent his anger anywhere.

The thought of anger at this time could only be turned over to Li Ming with a roar: "Li Ming, Lin Bo Kang was murdered last night, and you were the only person that had met with him. What did you see at that time? Did you or did you not kill him!!"

Li Ming hurriedly knelt down and lowered his head. Even though his voice was shaking, his train of thought was nevertheless very clear: "Daren, accuse me wrongly ah! I (Xiaoren) am the housekeeper of the Lin Family. Master stayed in the prison for a few months, received many hardships. I merely came to give clothes to Master. At that time, Master's mood was not good. Xiaoren did not dare to stay too long, only saying a few words to ease his anxiety. After leaving

behind the clothes, I left. Xiaoren was only staying for less than one burning incense stick time (about 30 minutes) in the prison. At that time, it was raining so hard. The tree outside of the prison cell was blown away and broke apart the door. Xiaoren still helped the big brother bailiffs to move the tree.”

This Li Ming’s figure was a little sturdier than the deceased, basically he would be able to strap tightly a person after he lost consciousness and hung him on the top of the beam of the roof. According to the time of death and his coming to see Lin Bo Kang, Li Ming’s suspicion was the biggest also, but there was no conclusive evidence. Reasoning for the details of a case was always Gu Yun’s specialty, she was solely engrossed in autopsy.

Quietly turning a few steps backs, Zhuo Qing retreated to the outside door of the prison, lazily leaning against the wall and repeatedly yawning. There should not be anything related to her afterwards....

“You said that you came to deliver the clothes. In that case, was Lin Bo Kang in front of you when he was changing into his new clothes and shoes?”

Slightly raising his head to look a glance at Dan Yu Lan’s simple clothing, Li Ming once again lowered his head and quietly answered: “No.”

With a gentle voice but also a suffocating pressure feeling, Dan Yu Lan continued to ask: “Except for delivering clothes to give to him, what did you still want to help him to do?”

Li Ming had not pondered very long for this next question and answered: “Xiaoren only wanted to give clothes to Master and spoke a few sentence and then left.”

Dan Yu Lan suddenly entered the inside of the prison gate, went to the right side of the bedside. The simple and crude slab of wood that was used as the bed was covered with straws. Dan Yu Lan raised his hand and lightly picked up a few strand of straws near the bedside. One fussy footprint shockingly appeared: “There was one muddy footprint at the deceased bedside, but the deceased wore a pair of new shoes. Let’s just consider that was the old shoes, but the deceased was already in the prison for a few months and rarely went out, it was also unlikely to have this much dirt. It was raining heavily last night and you were the only one who came to see the deceased in the prison at that time. This shoes

print was exactly yours that you left behind when you were hanging the dead body, yes or no?”

Zhuo Qing slightly narrowed her eyes in a moment, the footprint was not easy to see clearly since it was located and intertwined among the straws. It was more difficult to discover and Dan Yu Lan all along was simply outside the prison door but unexpectedly he paid attention at this a little. A very attentive and sharp person ah!

Li Ming was shaking all over and without elaborating said: “No...”

Wu Zhi Gang could not tolerate it and shouted: “Take off his shoes so we can inspect and validate it!”

Two of the bailiffs immediately accepted the order, quickly dragging Li Ming to take off his shoe. After one comparison answered: “Daren, Li Ming’s shoe and this one’s footprint were identical.”

After validating it, Wu Zhi Gang was even more arrogant and aggressively stood up to say: “It was really you!! Li Ming, you really had big guts!”

Zhuo Qing snorted disdainfully, this could only proof that Li Ming had stepped on the slab at that time. Nothing more, this was also a secondary proof and could not be used to convict him!

Li Ming was already trembling just like a wind that was destroying a leaf, immediately crawled on the ground to beg forgiveness and answered: “I.... Daren, Xiaoren simply... Xiaoren simply lost control temporarily. It was not my intention to want to injure Master!”

He pleaded guilty? Zhuo Qing always felt something was fishy but also could not figure out where the problem was! Lou Xi Yan’s eyes gloriously flashed through for a second but quickly disappeared.

“You were in the prison before but it was no more than one burning incense stick time. You killed a person, changed his clothes, forged the scene to look like he hung himself and handled everything, you still dared to say that you lost control temporarily! Unless you still have something to hide! Speak!”

Slightly hold his voice high and with determination eyes, Dan Yu Lan’s body emitted a feeling of righteousness. Li Ming was scared, shivered with cold and

could not say anything. Even Zhuo Qing was also shaking and dazzling impressively.

Li Ming's eyes were slightly moving, very much frightened, simply incessantly asked for forgiveness: "Daren, please spare me. Daren, please spare me!"

If Li Ming really did this much with a thorough plan to want to kill a person, it could clearly be seen that he was a calm and also cold-blooded person. How could he frighten this much now? He was the Lin Family's housekeeper and there should not be any big deep hatred towards Lin Bo Kang, so what was the motive to kill him?

"Li Ming! You are one ungrateful person. When Husband was alive, you were not treated badly!!" Madam Lin was unable to resist her anger and resentful feeling. How could she ever expect that the person who killed her husband had unexpectedly followed them for a lot of years as a housekeeper!!

The villager also wished that they could beat to death this ungrateful person. There was somewhat chaos for a moment in the prison. Dan Yu Lan made a prompt decision and said clearly: "We will imprison this person! Wait for this Official's investigation for Lin Bo Kang's case file. We will do the hearing of the case again! We will have our own judgement to judge the case on the merits whether it is pros or cons."

"Yes." The bailiffs immediately escorted Li Ming to enter the other side of the prison.

Madam Lin and the villagers were also led out of the prison by the bailiffs. Lou Xi Yan softly clapped his hands, the corner of his mouth raised to smile and said: "The Imperial, Civil and Military all said that Official Dan was calm and bright when he was hearing to judge a case. I saw it today and as expected, it was indeed lived up to his famous reputation."

"Prime Minister Lou was over-praising."

Still with a calmed expression which Lou Xi Yan was accustomed too, two people moved away from the prison gate side by side.

Wu Si saw Lou Xi Yan came out and at once met up with him. Extremely grateful, he said: "Prime Minister Daren, thank you very much that you gave us

the conclusion of the case. Please rest assured, it was our wrongdoing that we kidnapped the young lady, however we absolutely had not made things difficult for her. The young lady was a good person and still helped us to write the accusation. She also gave an autopsy for the benefactor a moment ago. The young lady...”

“Hold on!” Lou Xi Yan’s face that always has a smile is stiff now.

He said: “You said that youngster who did the autopsy a moment ago was Qing Feng!!” Qing Feng? It turned out that youngster was unexpectedly a woman?

Dan Yu Lan looked at Prime Minister Lou’s face, only to see he was all shocked. This Qing Feng was really not simple, could let Prime Minister to expose his upset and annoyance. Not many could do it!

Who is Qing Feng? Was she not called Zhuo Qing?! Wu Si was puzzled and unconsciously, his head raised to look for Zhuo Qing, but where was her shadow in the prison?? With a surprise expression, he said: “Where is she?”

# Record of Washed Grievances Chapter 16: Barely Coming Out Of The Tiger's Den

Bonus chapter...

This chapter was edited by Din2.

Huan Yang was worthy to be a capital of the country. In the evening time, there were people already coming and going even though the street was not on the main road. At one side of the road, there were a great number of shops. Originally, she could properly appreciate what kind of capital city the ancient time had. As it should be, the precondition was that the soul of a deceased that had not yet dispersed must not blindly follow her. Then everything would be perfect! (This is an idiom meaning that she would enjoy the scenery so much more if not for the fact that Mo Bai was chasing after her).

Unable to really change anything, Zhuo Qing crouched at the corner of the wall border to breathe heavily. Less than 10 steps over and above the intersection, she could see Mo Bai's white face that had no red color nor breathed heavily. With sky blue color of eyes that were indifferent, he was watching attentively at Zhuo Qing, he did not step forward to capture her nor did he walk a far distance from her.

Zhuo Qing was aggrieved. He had already chased her for five blocks. Five blocks ah, that was why she was tired like a dog. Nevertheless, this person's one hair was not even messy! With great difficulty, Zhuo Qing's strength had come back slowly. She did not run again and walked to Mo Bai.

Lowly panting, she asked: "Blue eyes, what exactly did you want?"

Mo Bai's indifferent face did not have any expression and he did not response. Zhuo Qing lowly cursed. She loathed to play with this ruthless person!!

With eyes glancing and roaming, Zhuo Qing was suddenly keeping close to Mo Bai's side and stood, her mood seemed to be pretty good, she smiled and said: "Do you or do you not want to follow? Following a little bit closer and it will not

be easy to lose me.”

Zhuo Qing suddenly changed so that the heart of Mo Bai passed a little surprise, but he did not have any expression on his face so it was difficult for her to see his mood.

There was one family's satin shop in the middle of the roadside. The decoration was gorgeous.

Zhuo Qing's eyes flashed craftily, smiley said: “These whole clothes are worn out and smell bad. I want to buy new clothes.”

Pulling Mo Bai's sleeves, Zhuo Qing was dragging him to the direction of the satin shop. Mo Bai indifferently pulled back his sleeves, but still followed her to go in.

Looking that there were customers who visited, the shop owner immediately welcomed to greet: “These two gentlemen...” Seeing clearly Mo Bai's light blue eyes, snowy skin color, the shop owner got panicky. He hurriedly retreated back one step, did not dare to look at his face. Mo Bai already seemed to get used to this a long time ago. His indifferent face was as cold as before as if it was always like that.

Even though Zhuo Qing draped over her self with this Chinese style gown (paozi), covered her securely and looked somewhat strange, however, the shop owner was still willing to talk to Zhuo Qing more and followed him. The shop owner politely introduced and said: “Our shop's silk is indeed well-known around Qiong Yue, you choose as you wish. This side also makes a good scholar garment. It does not matter if you do not have any style that you like, the store can also make it customized for you.”

Walking to the direction of the small room next to the store, Zhuo Qing clearly said: “I want to try them, find a couple of person to help me to get the clothes.”

The shop owner answered repeatedly: “Yes, yes, please.”

Both hands on her chest together and with Mo Bai was standing by her side, Zhuo Qing provoked and laughed: “Blue eyes, do you want to come in together ah?”

Mo Bai immediately ignored her, his back was facing towards her cold front

look. Zhuo Qing secretly released a sigh of relief. If he really followed her to go in, it would be a disaster. One burned fragrance incense stick's (about 30 minutes) later.

“Ah...”

All of a sudden, there was a mournful female voice from the inside of the room. After that there was a few loud sounds. Mo Bai's eyes showed a tiny expression in a flash, sure enough, that youngster played a trick on him. In a flash, his body entered the inside of the room extremely quickly.

Not a big place as there were clothing everywhere, scattered all over the floor. One young boy was laying face up as if he was looking at the sky and his forehead clearly had a bruise. Beside him, there was a woman who dressed up as a maid and was laying down. Mo Bai looked around at the place and there was no place to hide.

By the half opened window, there was a wooden stepping stool. Pushing open the window to look outside, it seemed to be the backyard of the small store. Mo Bai quickly jumped to go out through a small gap towards the backyard of the side room to continue chasing.

The shop owner hurriedly ran inside and was startled to see the room once he entered. Raising his head just time to see Mo Bai jumped out of the window to run toward his family's backyard, shouted: “This, this, this, what's going on?! What are you doing!?”

The shop owner urgently shouted to call other people. The woman with the maid's black clothes who was laying down suddenly got up to sit. The woman's profile was absolutely lucid and elegant, it shocked and dazzled the shop owner's heart.

With hesitation, he asked: “Young lady, who are you ah?” How was it possible that this pretty young woman appeared inside his store. At that time, he remembered that he only called a young boy to attend to the youngster to change clothes...

The shop owner still had not understood when the woman already stood and came directly in front of the shop owner. The shop owner was once again startled, oh my gosh! How could this pretty young lady had one side of her face

that was completely destroyed like this, what a pity!! It was extremely a pity!!

When the shop owner was feeling proud of himself, Zhuo Qing was anxious but she grabbed the opportunity. The skirt fell to the ground and she extremely rapidly fled to go outside the room. The shop owner only saw a flash of a bluish shadow, everything that just happened inside felt like a trance. After his senses came back, the shop owner finally remembered that the clothes on Zhuo Qing's body belonged to his shop, Zhou Qing was already rushed out of the store.

A while later, only an alarmed yelling sound of the shop owner was heard from the inside of the satin shop: "Grab the thief..., no, the robber!!"

Zhuo Qing avoided the street and ran to an alley that had less people. The alley had twisted tunnels, turns, it was very tangled and complicated. If it was not for her outstanding memory, she would be bound to lose her way. It should not be too easy for Blue Eyes to find her, right!

Zhuo Qing still had not finished rejoicing in time, when she heard the sound of several different footsteps following from behind. Barely thinking to turn around to see what was going on, there was a flash of shadow right before her eyes and a two-edged ice cold broadsword was already against her neck. She could not be this unlucky, right.... With great difficulty, she got rid of the person who was tailing her but once again she would be involved in the middle of a killing enmity?!

The man who was in front of her had beard on his face, absolutely could not see the age, bloodshot eyes full of fear and frenzy, the mouth was repeatedly saying: "You, you, you, you... Do not act recklessly!"

It is him that must not act recklessly, right?! Zhuo Qing was confused, at the same time also fearful incessantly. At this time, there was one with a few mocking and provoking anger of a young male voice, coming through from the back faintly: "In any case, you would not be able to escape the young master's (he used Shao Ye-少爷 to call himself which can be translated as young master) control, you would better be obedient, so as to avoid me to come to blow you!"

The bearded male was even more frightened, one hand detained Zhuo Qing's shoulder and he was standing in front of her. The knife blade was closely sticking to her neck and the hand that was holding the knife was trembling ferociously.

Zhuo Qing did not dare to move randomly as she could clearly feel that the knife blade that was against her neck was swaying up and down. With a stiff body and full of helplessness, Zhuo Qing said in a low voice: “Can you not tremble?!”

The bearded male breathed hazily, simply had not paid attention to anything Zhuo Qing said. A pair of his frightened eyes were staring ahead. Contrary to what one might expect, there was a lower sound of ridicule laugh up front.

Zhuo Qing lifted her eyes to look, not far away, there was a man with both hands on his chest, lazily leaning at the entrance of the alley. He was wearing blue clothing with short sleeves jacket, leisurely tiptoeing to strike the beat with a complete hooligan manner. The man looked very young, about 20 years old, appearance actually elegant and handsome, with double-edged sword like eyebrows to join his temple, tiny and narrow eyes like phoenix, roaming casually and carelessly.

The man just straightened his body, the bearded male immediately startled like a rabbit. He roared: “You, do not come over, otherwise I... I will slaughter her!”

The man’s gaze had swept Zhuo Qing’s face, dazzling tiny phoenix eyes with a ruffian smile on his face, indifferently answered: “Do as you please, my purpose is to catch a person to change for money, why do I care about her life? Your hands already killed 5 human lives, killing another one is also ok, this way maybe I can still receive 100 liang of silvers!”

Right, ah! Bounty hunter’s scheme was not only about money! The bearded male seemed to see that he had hope in the end, eagerly discussed: “You let me go, how much silver do you want, I will give it to you, more than the 100 silvers reward from the official, no no, double the amount!”

The man in the blue clothes cleaned out his ears (like he could not believe what the bearded guy was saying) with an impatience face, embarrassedly answered: “Stop giving me nonsense, you want to kill just kill quickly, young master (again he used Shao Ye to address himself) is still hungry! Rushing to receive the money!”

Seeing that his favorable enticement did not work, the bearded man pressed the knife even more on Zhuo Qing’s neck, irritably answered with a roar: “You...

do not come over, I... will really kill her!”

Zhuo Qing could feel that the man did not really want her to be killed, otherwise he could refused to pay attention to her life and stepped forward to catch the person, no need to hold back without doing anything to bide his time, but speaking about a shock method, there was no need to speak so fierce, ok!

“Hiss\_\_” (sound of air sucked between the teeth, indicating hesitation)

Zhuo Qing had begun to feel pain on her neck, although the edge of the knife was not deep, but nevertheless the blood seeped out slowly, the faint smell of the blood was wafting through the air. Zhuo Qing moved backwards to breath a mouthful of cold air, darn it, it hurt! Crap! Eldest brother (the original words used were 大哥-dage), will you negotiate ah? If you will not, please appoint somebody to negotiate an expert to come, ok?!

# Record of Washed Grievances Chapter 17: And Into The Wolf's Den

Finally a beginning of another encounter with LXY... Unfortunately for ZQ, she is not a match to LXY's schemes and for us, another cliffhanger from the author.

This chapter was edited by Din2.

The bearded man was already met with desperation when the smell of the blood forced him to be on the verge of being mad. The blue veins on his forehead raised violently, the scarlet red eyes were staring at the man, his mouth shouted: "It is you who force me! You force me!!"

On one side, he was shouting and on the other side, the large knife on his hand was wiping toward Zhou Qing's fair neck. Darn, Zhuo Qing's heart was tensed, the other hand of the bearded man was continuously sticking closely to her shoulder. Zhuo Qing was unable to move a single step, soon the point of the knife would close in on her and she also could only wait to die.

Just when the bearded man was in between raising his knife and lowering it, the man with the blue garment and tiny phoenix eyes raised to capture a split second of the time when he was raising hand, one knife as a cicada's wing, the tree leaves size of a throwing knife caused the man's finger to crack with flying speed. Zhuo Qing only felt one extremely powerful strong wind had swept on her neck, after that the neck suddenly felt hot and the blood splashed on the top of the neck.

"Ah!" A similar yelling as if a pig was being killed was heard, the bearded man's large knife fell to the ground but his other hand that was tightly grabbing Zhou Qing did not release her. Darn it!

Feeling less of a threat from the blade, Zhou Qing grabbed the opportunity, grasping the elbow with her left hand, grasping the shoulder with her right hand, fastening on a steady horse stance to lower the central core (I think this is one of

the martial art moves when you make sure that your feet positions were steady before you do any other move), lowering her right shoulder, twisting her left waist, vertical downward force and throwing her mind to read silently the shoulder throw (judo move) formula that Gu Yun had taught her. Zhuo Qing closed her eyes and used up all her strength to throw down the bearded man. Bang, bang! After one beautiful judo move, the bearded man felt that his body was light, dizzy and he was somehow thrown to the ground. His back ferociously smashed the bluestone on the road and he was in endless pain.

Zhuo Qing herself was also not as good either, just now she did not fear for her life and used up all her strength. She seemed to twist her waist, was grimacing in pain and with great difficulty, separated from the bearded man. Braving her pain, Zhuo Qing stumbled toward the blue garment man.

The man raised his shoulder, lightly shook his head and he had a contrived extremely exaggerated facial expression. His mouth muttered a sound: “Jiang Hu is dangerous, Jiang Hu is dangerous ah...”

Boy, no wonder the old man said that Jiang Hu was the most dangerous, the scariest woman! She just had thin arms, legs and small physique, unexpectedly, could take a hold of almost twice the size of a man’s strength and threw him down.... The old man indeed had the highest insight.... This person could still have a little contrived!! Zhuo Qing ferociously stared to glance at him.

At this moment, the bearded man who was on the ground was also having a hard time crawling to stand up, with messy looks, he moved forward to run away, leaving a thin trail of blood on the ground. It could clearly be seen that the knife hit the right target a moment ago.

“You want to run!” The blue garment man shouted loudly. He unloaded a strip like a thumb size rope, made a harness and effortlessly trapped the bearded man to stop. Exerting his strength to pull, he knocked down the bearded man one more time. Maybe because of his injury that was extremely serious, the bearded man groaned on the ground and did not crawl to get up anymore.

Using the other rope that was fasten on his waist, the blue garment man proudly laughed: “I want to see where you can still run this time!” He had a value of 500 liang! Chased him for 3 months, if the man ran away, this deal was

certainly a big loss.

Pulling the bearded man to turn around, the blue garment man saw Zhuo Qing was still leaning against the stone wall, her complexion was extremely wrong like she was gasping for air. Walking to her side, the man embarrassedly asked: “Hey, are you ok?”

“No.” Still rubbing a muscle cramp on her waist, Zhuo Qing was in pain and sweating profusely. Her complexion was exceptionally pale and the bloodstain on her neck was also particularly obvious for the eyes to see. She was after all a woman and also because of him, she sustained an injury a moment ago. He was somewhat a little bit responsible for her injury so no matter what, he should not leave her?!

Looking for countless of reason to convince himself, the man seemed to achieve an enormous general resolution. Cautiously and solemnly pulling a small bottle from his chest, he turned around after fiddling for a long time and said: “For you.”

Zhuo Qing raised her head, the man grabbed her hand and put a black shelled peanut size pill on her palm with a reluctant face.

Zhuo Qing was puzzled: “What is this?”

The man excitedly replied: “I tell you, it is to staunch a bleeding, frightened repose, detoxify fever/cold, a good elixir medicine! Hurry up and eat it.”

“Elixir medicine...?” Zhuo Qing bowed her head to see her palm that had this extremely dark pill, the pill was still emitting a strange smell. This one thing could really take care of 3 sicknesses, how very unlikely?! Zhuo Qing would definitely not eat this thing.

Zhuo Qing’s face snorted disdainfully, the man was in a bad mood. One side reaching out to grab and the other side scolded: “Return it to me if you do not eat it, if it is not to see that you are a young woman, I will definitely not give it to you. You are unable to recognize other’s good intention! Just this one drug, it is valued at 50 liang of silver!!”

Even though she would absolutely not eat it, but looking at the man’s love for money as if it was his manner of life, Zhuo Qing suddenly clenched her palm

tightly, hid it behind her back, the man still wanted to step forward. Zhou Qing evilly raised her head to laugh while she was throwing it away. Along with her beautiful gesture, the pill disappeared among the debris.

She, she, she unexpectedly threw it away?! The man was glaring at Zhuo Qing, his young face was full of heartache, 50 liang of silver ah! 50 liang... In theory, just can not be a good person!

Her face was no longer so pale, in addition the neck was cut by a knife and dripped out some blood, nothing serious. Furthermore she also had the mood to argue, he simply should not meddlesome to take care of her.

Walking back to the side of the bearded man, he vented and ferociously kicked his two legs. Then, the man once again was pulling and dragging the bearded man while whistling and walking toward the outside of the alley, no longer giving a glance at Zhuo Qing.

This man was really somewhat interesting, slowly opening up her other hand, that pitch-black pill was still on her palm. As early as when the hand was on her back, in the split second, the drug was already changed hands. Conveniently stuffing the pill inside the pocket of the belt, Zhuo Qing turned around to look towards that swaying rear view of the man, with a loud voice asked: “Hey, what is your name?”

“Qian Jing...” (The Chinese character for his name is 乾荆, 乾-Qian as a surname & 荆-Jing as a chaste tree for herbal remedy). From the winding alley, the man’s distance shout was floating over.

“Qian Jing?!” (These are using different characters, 钱-Qian as money & 精-Jing as extremely (fine) – essentially Zhuo Qing thought since his name has a money character in it so that’s why he loves money). Zhuo Qing was startled, filling her head with sinister line, just how much love he had for money... Thinking of him a moment ago, he kept on saying about money as it never left his mouth. Zhuo Qing had no choice but to sigh in admiration, his parents indeed had excellent foresight ah...!

Sitting at the corner for a moment, her strength finally came back slowly, propping up on the stone wall, Zhuo Qing was walking at the alley slowly. However, after walking for a while, her waist began to ache, leaning against the

stone wall, Zhuo Qing forced a smile. She really had too much bad luck!! After living more than 20 years, these two days were probably the most exciting time!

Supporting her waist, Zhuo Qing moved to go towards the entrance of the alley one step at a time. Suddenly, a bright black chariot appeared at the narrow roadway, the wide body of the chariot almost blocked the whole road. The chariot had a quiet and delicate canopy, tall dark horses, really showed the social status of this chariot.

Zhuo Qing looked around in a glimpse, there was no coachman, also did not see who the other person was. Anyway, the chariot was blocking the road. She also could not walk to pass through and her waist was tremendously painful. Zhuo Qing planned to go to the chariot to rest for a moment and to stretch her waist a little bit before walking again.

Zhuo Qing immediately decided to take action, tying her long skirt up to her waist, with one hand, she was grabbing the chassis of the chariot, the other hand propping up the shaft of the chariot, her foot was also kicking. With great difficulty, Zhuo Qing climbed up to lift the curtain open.

Unexpectedly, there was someone in the chariot? Seeing clearly this person's looks, Zhou Qing was extremely regretting! A pair of thin and soft eyes that she had already disliked just shined lightly with a faint smile, raised thin lips, even more annoying!

Lou Xi Yan, this person whom she anxiously was trying to free herself from, was just calmed and unruffled at this moment. Seeing him so relaxed and at ease and by contrast, she ran a big circle, put herself into a difficult situation, unexpectedly came around to walk right into the same trap at the moment...

"What a coincidence, we meet again." A clear and shallow's male voice with a trace of repressed emotion and smiling expression echoed faintly.

Coincidence...

Zhuo Qing wished to cry but had no tears, she was really not having too much fun...

# Record of Washed Grievances Chapter 18: Prime Minister Lou, “The Fox”

This chapter was edited by Din2.

Freezing at the door side, Zhuo Qing had no room to advance or retreat. She lowered her head in defeat to look at her light green skirt that was tied at the waist. Zhuo Qing's eyes were bright, secretly warned herself, calm down, calm down. He might not necessarily recognize her!

Raising her head towards Lou Xi Yan with a soft and depicted eyes, Zhuo Qing howled in grief. If he did not recognize her, that would mean he had something wrong! Clearly understanding that she deceived others and herself, Zhuo Qing was still sighing and softly pulled down her skirt. One side was trying to retreat and the other side was using herself to consider the most gentle voice and stated: “I feel embarrassed, I... went to the wrong chariot.”

Lou Xi Yan lightly raised his eyebrows, a clear voice with a smiling expression echoed lowly: “I am still under the impression that you will say that you are just passing by...”

Zhuo Qing was stiffed, ferociously glared a glance at Lou Xi Yan. She raised her head so the dark blood red of the scar became undoubtedly visible. Lou Xi Yan narrowed his slender and tiny eyes, his complexion was changed a little and asked: “Did you hurt?”

It had been a little less painful on the throat, the blood was basically dry, Zhuo Qing indifferently asked: “It is nothing, just a little skin scratch.” It was more painful on her waist now!! A woman really was not suitable to fight violently. Of course, except for Gu Yun who had that kind of genetic mutation type of woman!

Zhuo Qing's heart was cursing silently, her wrist was suddenly grabbed by a person. When she recovered, she was already pulled into the chariot's soft couch by Lou Xi Yan. Paying attention to Zhou Qing's nape that had a large area

of bloodstain, Lou Xi Yan's heart was tensed. Feeling a little pain on her wrist, Zhuo Qing looked towards Lou Xi Yan, only to see his pair of eyes that were serenely watching attentively at her neck. Recalling that the bearded man sprayed his blood on her body a moment ago, Zhuo Qing hurriedly said: "This was not my blood!"

Lou Xi Yan lightly lifted up her collar a little, indeed, he could only see the bloodstain but could not see the wound. This woman was really rather complicated ah... She escaped for one shichen time (2 hours) just now, but could provoke one "murder case."

Feeling a little itchy on her neck that Zhuo Qing was not really used to, she struggled to stand up.

"Do not move." Lowering her shoulder, Zhuo Qing once again was pushed by Lou Xi Yan on the soft couch. The clear and shallow sound in the past was mildly different, it sounded somewhat deep and low. Zhuo Qing looked up to look, Lou Xi Yan found a piece of white silk handkerchief from the chariot. With one hand, he lifted her chin and with the other hand, he lightly wiped the silk handkerchief on her neck. His hand was somewhat cold. Being extremely close, his body had this faint smell of sandalwood aroma, it was not very strong compare to the average men's well-known perfume but it smelled better. Lou Xi Yan's nearly perfect side of the face was also dangling in front of her eyes. Zhuo Qing felt somewhat difficult to breathe, but she was extremely unlikely to admit to herself that his charm was actually puzzling. She firmly concluded that it was because of the silk handkerchief that was wrapped around very tightly... Sensing that Zhuo Qing's body became more and more stiff, Lou Xi Yan's corner of mouth was lightly and distinctively perked up. When it was necessary, a handsome man's trick could also be feasible. Lou Xi Yan's hand movement was even more gentle, tying a knot and also gently stroking for quite a while.

Zhuo Qing was secretly cursing, he surely did it on purpose! Was it really necessary to stand by her side this much close in order to wrap the wound?! With great difficulty, he wrapped it up properly. Zhuo Qing was embarrassed and retreated a little, getting up she said: "Thank you, I am going now."

Even if he knew that she was only the gray clothing's youngster, he also did not have any reason to block her departure.

Unless...

“Qing Feng, if you leave like this and the Emperor knows it, I am afraid that your other sisters will also consequently be put in a lot of trouble. Just like the country of Hao Yue will not escape from this predestined fate disaster.” Once again, that kind of faint, light, soft and indifferent smile, it almost made Zhuo Qing mad.

Grief and indignation ah... She just knew it that those villagers were absolutely unworthy to be trusted! Unexpectedly, they betrayed her!! Ironically, she helped them so much!

With so much resentment, Zhuo Qing coldly answered: “Are you threatening me?” She is not Qing Feng anyway, it will be best if he does not threaten her! Impossible.

Back against the chariot and sitting with cross-legged, Lou Xi Yan mildly smiled and answered: “Miss Qing accuses me wrongly, this type of threatening has not produced any real result in the matter and I will never do it.” This kind of casual appearance, out of the ordinary did not make Lou Xi Yan appeared coarse. On the contrary, it was rather graceful and completely free and at ease.

Unfortunately, Zhuo Qing did not have a little bit of mood to appreciate, this man also held too much grudges! Unexpectedly, using her past words and threw it back at her once again. Calm down, calm down! Accomplishment, accomplishment! Zhuo Qing took a deep breath several times, was trying to stabilize her upcoming unstable mood. She simply sat down next to Lou Xi Yan, Zhuo Qing provoked: “In that case, Prime Minister Lou, what do you want to do?”

Looking at her who was making an effort to constrain her own angry appearance, Lou Xi Yan inwardly laughed, softly answered: “Actually, Miss Qing does not need to think too much, please live at the Prime Minister’s manor. I am not really trying to make things difficult for Miss, it is merely the broad and powerful benevolence from the Emperor, as such Lou mou (original words used 楼某-Lou mou, it’s a third party calling to call himself instead of using 我-I, it’s more formal & there’s really no English substitution for the word. Similar to an emperor who calls himself “Zhen” instead of “I”) also has no choice but to

receive. Miss Qing is also injured so you can recuperate at my manor properly. In addition, Lou mou can strive my hardest to arrange you to meet with your sisters. This way, is it good or not?”

Sisters? She fainted with Gu Yun together, was there any possibility that she was inside the Qing family's sister. There was just one of them who was Gu Yun?! Although the possibility was not very big, Zhuo Qing still wanted to meet them. She would not let this opportunity slipped by whatsoever! Looking straight at Lou Xi Yan, Zhuo Qing's heavy voice asked: “Are you able to let me see them?”

The fish bit!

With gentle and soft eyebrows and matchless serious intonation, Lou Xi Yan clearly answered: “Lou mou will surely do my best.”

Zhuo Qing turned over to give one supercilious look, so much of a perfunctory answer. She would not believe in this crafty plot. “I want to know if you can or can not.”

His eyes flashed with a hint of interest thinking that this girl was not stupid.

Slowly nodded, Lou Xi Yan firmly answered: “I can.” The only issue was whether it was soon or later.

Thinking deeply in a moment, Zhuo Qing once again asked: “I will go to Prime Minister's manor, and my status will be your young concubine?”

Lou Xi Yan's face was honest, smiley answered: “Of course, it will be a noble guest.” The Emperor already bestowed to give her to him, her side had already been determined at an earlier time, exactly a young concubine... He also did not have any way to help.

“I can have freedom to go out and come in to the Prime Minister's manor?”

Nodding indifferently, Lou Xi Yan generously answered: “You can.” However he will oversee her freedom.

Zhuo Qing refreshingly answered: “Deal!”

She did not have any choice, penniless, covered all over with wounds, not to mention that Lou Xi Yan went around to block and stop her. It was absolutely impossible to let her go, even if she really wanted to be free, she would have to

find money in a short time! Only an outstanding talent could recognize the current trend (ZQ realized that she would be doomed if she did not live with “the fox”), she still only temporarily surrendered.

Not knowing if Zhuo Qing heard Lou Xi Yan with regards to the additional answers and explanations afterwards, whether or not she could still feel rejuvenated this much, but at this moment, she still did not know it well.

“Back to the manor.” A relaxed voice showed the master’s good mood.

“Yes.” Hearing the sound coming from outside, Zhuo Qing was stiff once again. Lightly opening the curtain, outside the chariot, Mo Bai proudly stood beside the chariot to see Zhuo Qing. His face still looked indifferent, his eyes were dazzled for the first time to ridicule her clever thinking.

Everything that happened today was probably Lou Xi Yan’s plan to control and follow his skill to scheme... Feeling cold on her spine, Zhuo Qing felt cheated!

She just barely came out of the tiger’s den, and again entered into the wolf’s den.

## Record of Washed Grievances Chapter 19: Entering Prime Minister's Manor

A couple of questions to you all readers. Do you find it annoying to read my explanations in the parenthesis when I feel some words need more explanations on things that I can't just translate from Chinese to English? I personally don't like using footnotes when I have to scroll down to read the explanation. Should I just leave it as is and without an explanation since most of the readers are probably know them anyway since you all read a lot of Chinese novels? Thanks for your input!

This chapter was edited by Din2.

Inside the chariot, each Lou Xi Yan and Zhuo Qing occupied one side of the area, in any case, entering the Prime Minister's manor was already settled conclusively. Zhuo Qing also would no longer bring trouble to herself. She was always flexible in the past, in all respect, for a homeless, everywhere was a home. Tossing from side to side, Zhuo Qing's head felt somewhat dizzy, but luckily the chariot was running figuratively smoothly. Propping her head, Zhuo Qing casted sidelong to glance at Lou Xi Yan. He was lowering his head to read a book, did not know if that was or was not his habitual facial expression. The corner of his mouth appeared to be always raising slightly. Speaking the truth, this kind of him was really good-looking. It was a pity that Zhuo Qing's perception was not enough for her to properly and joyfully smile, just looked like... the same as professional smile, courtesy and estranged.

Lightly yawning, Zhuo Qing tapped her eyelids, she was extremely sleepy. Zhuo Qing's breath gradually became even, Lou Xi Yan softly closed the book just now. He was gazing at this strange woman continuously. He did not even read one word a moment ago while she was watching attentively. He unexpectedly could be absent-minded... even more strange, he could watch attentively at her like this, until the chariot stopped. From the outside, Mo Bai's voice echoed, Lou Xi Yan just recovered now.

“Master, we arrived.”

Mo Bai's low call had also woken up Zhuo Qing who was closing her eyes to rest. Lifting to open the hanging clothing curtain, Zhuo Qing took the lead to jump down the chariot, completely ignored Lou Xi Yan, the owner.

Standing firm on the ground, Zhuo Qing was immediately overawed, before her eyes 5 to 6 meters tall and 7 to 8 meters wide of a bronze entrance gate. It was spacious and concise of a lintel door, the vermilion color of the 相府-Xiang Fu (Prime Minister's manor), the two words embedded with a gold plaque that was hung in the middle of the door. Both sides of the entrance doors did not have guardian lion statues as Zhuo Qing had imagined. Nor were there formidable, well-built, arrogant and overbearing men who were looking after the house to protect the courtyard. Going into one section was a garden with stone and brick mountain, not only blocking the line of sight, but also revealing the master's magnanimity. The entrance was already open unrestrictedly like this but faintly revealing the dignified air of the influential family's manner. It would make people to sense an indescribable reverence, did not dare to rush in.

Zhuo Qing stepped across the inside of the entrance door, a suntanned person, Jing Sa just happened to approach to welcome, looked a quick glance at Zhuo Qing. His eyes flashed through in astonishment, but very quickly disappeared. Facing Lou Xi Yan who was behind Zhuo Qing, he slightly bowed and called out: “Master.”

Zhuo Qing recalled Lou Xi Yan at this moment, she seemingly should be waiting for the owner to bring her in and should not try to intrude on her own. Slightly retreating one step afterwards, Zhuo Qing naturally felt courteous and waited for Lou Xi Yan to come in.

“Master...” Jing Sa still wanted to ask something when a quiet and exquisite woman's voice echoed in a distant: “Elder brother!” From the back of the stone mountain, a pink silhouette straightforwardly was facing the entrance door and ran to come over, her skirt looked like a meandering pink butterfly. Zhuo Qing was worried that she would step on her own skirt and fall down, but she thought too much. The woman safely rushed to the front of Lou Xi Yan in the end.

Watching attentively and gently at the woman, Lou Xi Yan who was practically

spoiling and pampering her, with the same smile said: “What are you doing to go hurriedly like this?”

“Waiting for you.” The woman raised her head, slightly rosy lip was pouted, bright and beautiful big eyes with brilliant colors, she appeared to have grievance and was stubborn. Mixing a grief, resentful and low voice, she scolded: “Renjia, (courtesy calling for the Princess) Princess Chao Yun waited for you for half a day, second mother urged me to catch you at the gate, once you came back to hurriedly go to Hua Ting pavilion to wait upon her... Humph, a person with no bone!”

What is so amazing about the Princess?! A lackey appearance, they, the Lou Family, when and who do they need to wait upon like a slave?! Such a disgrace!

Looking at Xi Wu’s appearance, Lou Xi Yan probably knew what matter had occurred. Gently patting her shoulder, Lou Xi Yan smiled and said: “You spoke like this ah! Ok, I got it, you go to rest now.”

Lou Xi Wu was reluctant and unwilling to turn around to leave, Lou Xi Yan spoke to Jing Sa: “Jing Sa, tidy up Zhai Xing pavilion, find several intelligent servant girls to serve Miss Qing and be sure to invite the doctor to treat Miss’ wound.”

“Yes.” Jing Sa’s double-edged sword eyebrows wrinkled a little, the original black complexion was even somewhat darker.

Lou Xi Wu who already went to go back stopped her foot steps, Zhai Xing pavilion? That place was a two adjacent building with Elder Brother’s Lan Yue and in the same courtyard. At that place they could appreciate the star in the sky, it could even be said to be breathtakingly beautiful, therefore it was called Zhai Xing pavilion. However, on account that older brother liked to be quiet, that house was always unused in the past, who this big honorable person was to reside at Zhai Xing pavilion. Lou Xi Wu’s curiosity made her turned around, only to see a thin woman who was leisurely standing at the side.

Lou Xi Wu asked: “Elder brother, who is she ah?”

Lou Xi Yan serenely smiled and said: “Hao Yue country’s Miss Qing.”

“Qing Feng?! She?!” Lou Xi Wu bewilderingly shouted. How was it possible that

this woman was Qing Feng?! Messy hair and did not know how to bundle her hair, furthermore, that clothes, even her family's servant girls would be unlikely to wear green clothes. Even more the hideous scar from a knife wound on her right cheek, this woman was Qing Feng! It was a joke, right?! On one side, Lou Xi Wu was seizing up Zhuo Qing and on the other side, she snorted disdainfully and arguably said: "What was the meaning of Hao Yue's country to give this ugly person to come over? As expected, the rumor could not be trusted, it was still saying that the 3 Sisters of the Qing's family were devastatingly beautiful (the words used here were 倾国倾城, it was translated literally as a person who is so beautiful and capable of causing the downfall of a city or state or country) and graceful. What was this!"

Really ugly, right?! Zhuo Qing lightly caressed the cheek once that was already not giving her too much pain. Speaking the truth, she still had not had the chance to properly look at this face but if this young girl was thinking that she could provoke her this way, she was just too naive.

"Xi Wu, who taught you to be so undisciplined like this?"

Lou Xi Yan lowered his voice, Si Wu was somewhat afraid but thinking of this woman who was this ugly, nevertheless she was still elder brother's woman. Inevitably annoyed: "What I said was a fact, she originally was just..."

"Sorry to disturb you." A cold voice faintly echoed. Zhuo Qing's hands were on her chest and somewhat impatiently smiled and said: "You, brother and sister can reminisce as I do not have any opinion, but can you take me to the guest room first? I am very tired. As far as my features, you can slowly discuss it."

Lou Xi Yan stared blankly and afterwards chuckled, in all cases, woman put a serious importance to her face but she actually did not care about it at all. She was good now! At first, hearing that Princess Chao Yun came made his mood somewhat depressed, but he seemed to be a lot better now.

"Jing Sa, take Miss Qing to rest."

"Miss Qing, this way please."

Facing them to smile, Zhuo Qing indifferently said: "You can continue."

"You!" She simply did not pay any attention to her!! Lou Xi Wu's angry eyes

were almost glaring to come out.

Zhuo Qing absolutely refused to acknowledge her and crossed over Lou Xi Wu. She just minded her own business and advanced to walk inside the courtyard. Lou Xi Yan smiled and also advanced to walk over to the other direction to Hua Ting pavilion.

“Hey...” Lou Xi Wu looked to the left side, then looked at the right side and angrily stomped. Elder brother was clearly favoring that ugly woman! She would not give up like this! Humph!

# Record of Washed Grievances Chapter 20: Princess Chao Yun

Ok, since the majority of the readers don't mind the explanation in parenthesis, I will keep providing these explanations. For a few of you who don't like them, you can skip reading the explanations. Thanks for your comments & inputs!

This chapter was edited by Din2.

At dusk, the most beautiful moment of the day, fragments of the golden light pierced the clouds, adding a red color into the sky blue horizon to cover an equal colored of sunrise and sunset. With the exception of the fragrance in the garden, the rugged stone mountain, was also having a smile on his face, Lou Xi Yan's mood was extremely good.

Walking to the outside of Hua Ting pavilion through the front door of the courtyard, Lou Xi Yan stopped his footsteps. In a low voice, he said: "Mo Bai, watch her properly." According to her character, she would certainly not be well-behaved staying at the Prime Minister's manor. She had too many elusive matters that had not been handled clearly before, he would absolutely not let her leave outside of his control.

"Yes." Mo Bai's voice barely left and the shadow of the person suddenly disappeared between the stone mountain. One big person disappeared in a flash just now, whoever saw it would feel frightful. Lou Xi Yan was accustomed to it, lightly straightened his lapel, the corner of his mouth was raised softly, there was no smile in his eyes and he raised his steps to enter Hua Ting pavilion at the side of the courtyard.

Lou Xi Yan entered the interior of the courtyard. Sitting at the master's seat above, Yan Ru Xuan saw him right away with one quick glance. The sunset came from behind his reflection and he seemed to step on the coming golden ray. Putting on a white jade Dijon's hat, dark golden robe set off his increasingly majestic presence and handsomeness. Especially the corner of his mouth

seemed to have no lack of smile, feathery light, warm, shallow and faint. Every time she saw him, her heart would jump violently and incessantly.

Lou Xi Yan had not entered the room yet, Yan Ru Xuan already got up slowly to wait for him to come in. A light golden long skirt following her movement softly, Fushun's hairstyle (the original words used were 抚顺的发丝-Fushun de fasi, I googled it trying to see what this was but couldn't find anything related to this) was also slightly raised, quietly standing at that place, quiet and dignified temperament so much so that it could bewitch any person, not to mention that the appearance of the bright moon was pouring on the face.

Yan Ru Xuan suddenly got up, Xue Xian Xin also hurriedly stood, following her line of sight to look, just to see Lou Xi Yan was walking slowly, smiling clearly, waiting for Lou Xi Yan to enter Hua Ting pavilion. She impatiently and immediately pretended to complain and said: "Xi Yan had returned, Princess Chao Yun waited for you for a long time."

Lou Xi Yan simply nodded lightly towards Xue Xian Xin, faced Yan Ru Xuan, he greeted and clasped his hands and said: "Greetings to Princess."

Yan Ru Xuan advanced one step and urgently said: "Yan gege (the words used were 颜哥哥-It can be translated to elder brother Yan but it sounds weird so I'm going to keep the pinyin) does not need to be so polite."

Xue Xian Xin rejoiced covertly in her heart, Princess Chao Yun's heart was tied up to Xi Yan. If the two of them advanced to forge an alliance, that would be good, that the Lou family's authority would not collapse in the imperial court, she was trying to hide her true intention!! (Original words used were 一手遮天-yi shou zhe tian, an idiom that literally means to hide the sky with one hand). Wishful thinking (original words used 如意算盘-ru yi suan pan, another idiom that literally means counting one's chicks before it is hatched), Xue Xian Xin got up to attend to the guest and said: "You chat first, I will go to take a look at how things are for the evening meal's preparation."

Xue Xian Xin left perfectly satisfied, Yan Ru Xuan faced Lou Xi Yan's fluttering tiny eyes, her face was somewhat red-hot, hurriedly pointing at the medicine herbs on the side, with soft voice said: "Spring finally arrived, Xuan-er (Er means child and it is usually attached to the last character of a person's name as an

expression of affection in ancient China) is worry that Yan gege's illness will once again reappear so I am delivering some medicine herbs. This medicine was searched and concocted by Imperial Mother's famous doctor for you. You must take care of your body properly, do not work too excessively." Every time she heard that Yan gege's old illness recurred and could not attend the Imperial court, her heart was anxious incessantly.

Lou Xi Yan looked one glance at the medicine package on the desk, with clear voice said: "Many thanks to Empress Dowager, Princess' grace, this subject will pay attention."

Must he call her princess and himself a subject?! She had been chasing him this many years and he did not have any feeling at all?! She heard that Imperial Brother, bestowed him an exceptionally beautiful woman, he would despise her even more later, right?! Her heart was slightly in pain, concealing her tightfisted hands inside the wide sleeve of her garment, Yan Ru Xuan's pair of eyes were filled with hope and stared at Lou Xi Yan, quietly asked: "On the 15th of next month, Bei Qi Country's diplomatic envoy will come to make customary deferences to Qiong Yue, Imperial Mother and Imperial Brother will certainly not remember that day is also Xuan-er's 16th birthday, at the time that Yan gege enters the palace, can you come to visit Xuan-er?"

Meeting her longing gaze, Lou Xi Yan quietly comforted and said: "Princess does not need to worry about this, the Emperor and Empress Dowager will not forget your birthday."

"In that case, will you come to Qing Xuan's palace hall to see me?" She definitely did not care that other people did not remember, she only cared that he would not forget!

Lou Xi Yan hesitated for a moment, but finally answered with a soft voice: "I am afraid that it will be difficult to leave the official business when the envoy pays a visit, this subject will send someone to deliver a gift to Qing Xuan's palace."

Gift... She was not a small girl anymore who would be happy and excited to receive a gift, he refused her request once again, this time was the 57th times.

"It is late, Xuan-er will return first." Yan Ru Xuan was somewhat dazed and

walked away from Hua Ting pavilion, Lou Xi Yan could not bear it in his mind, he sighed and said: “This subject will send Princess to go out.” Xuan-er was a kindhearted woman so she ought to receive a better treatment, but he could not give it to her.

“There is no need.” Faintly sighing and preventing Lou Xi Yan’s step to follow, his visual was directed at the beautiful picture of the meandering skirt away. Lou Xi Yan turned around to look towards the table where a large number of packages of medicine herbs were, his cold eyes flashed through chilly cold rays, no longer gentle and soft.

.....

The dim light of night as if it was an ink, outside the room was pitch-black, inside the room, the yellow candle light passed through the heavy curtain shining inside the bed curtain, the light was barely enough to look at an object. Zhuo Qing softly opened her eyes to see a place full of cotton yarn curtain screen, she was absent-minded for a split second, but she recalled where she was very quickly.

Prime Minister’s manor had no deficiency, the high bed was warm, this was the best sleep that she had after arriving in this world. Stretching her body, Zhuo Qing lifted the bed curtain and she went to the outside direction of the screen barefooted. The floor was covered with a thick carpet, soft and very comfortable. There was a round mahogany table outside the screen, furthermore there was a soft couch. On the side of the screen, there was a high copper mirror, unexpectedly the copper could be polished so it was flat and smooth. Even though you could not compare it with a glass mirror, but it would be absolutely enough to use it everyday.

Standing in front of the mirror and after occupying this body for several days, Zhuo Qing finally had a chance to properly look at herself.

Willow leaf eyebrows, bridge of nose, perfect oval-shaped face, Zhuo Qing’s most favorite was the eyes, not too big but sparkling and pure, as if they were two deep and clear spring, tiny and raised lip that was full and moistened.

The information flourished at the modern era, the size of the celebrity was extremely a lot. Zhuo Qing also figured there were countless beauties and this

woman's features were indeed a rare beauty, even better if the packaging was good, absolutely could frighten the heaven and earth. But it was a pity that the right cheek had two scars from a knife wound that destroyed some sense of beauty. After all, using this body at the moment, even though Zhuo Qing did not feel ugly, but also could not help to say it was a pity. This face was extremely young, at most probably 16-17 years. Zhuo Qing laughed mockingly at herself, it seemed that she earned something in the end, completely uncalled for that she was 10 years younger.

Lightly touching the long fine black hair that reached to the calf, Zhuo Qing forced a smile, this long hair was truly baffling her. Softly ditching her collar, Zhuo Qing bowed her head to look down, could not help to blow a whistle. Lordy, what this child ate to grow up, she was a size 34D at the very least, her development seemed to be a little too good, right.....

Zhuo Qing was still minding her own business then gasped in surprise, the window of the room on the other side was half opened. A few gleam of light was somewhat dazzling to the eyes, she was walking to push opened the window to see, there was a lake that separated her courtyard and a small storied building, her next door neighbor. Not knowing what had happened directly in front, there were more than a dozen people who were assembling outside the room, the room was also brightly lit.

She drove out the maid before going to sleep, her stomach was terribly hungry now. She wanted to go and see what the situation was, then conveniently tried to find something to eat. Pushing opened the door, Zhuo Qing faced directly in front to walk to the three-stories building. Looking not too far, but on the top of the lake was bent, winding and turning into a long bridge, making Zhuo Qing completely miserable and with great difficulty she reached the small storied building in front, just to see that everybody's face was anxious. Watching attentively to see the room inside the small storied building and standing in front of the people, Zhuo Qing recognized Lou Xi Wu whom she had seen in the afternoon.

"Excuse me, may I ask what is going on?" A clear and cold female's voice leisurely echoed. The sound made a group of nervous people to be frightened and jumped.

Lou Xi Wu turned her head around and saw it was Zhuo Qing, impatiently said: “Go away, ugly woman, I do not have time to pay attention to you.”

Zhuo Qing lightly raised her eyebrows, indifferently answered: “Fine, I will go in to see on my own.” After she finished talking, she blatantly walked toward the small storied building.

She, she, she... Too outrageous!

After recovering, Lou Xi Wu hurriedly and powerfully stepped forward to block in front of Zhuo Qing and scolded: “You are not allowed to go in. Elder brother’s old illness has recurred, the Imperial Physician is treating his illness, you can not go in to disturb him!”

Zhuo Qing already guessed earlier that Lou Xi Wu would come over to block her, but hearing her saying that Lou Xi Yan was sick, Zhuo Qing was a little startled and asked: “What illness?” When he grabbed her for a length of time in the afternoon, the strength was not small, the complexion and breathing were as usual, did not resemble any illness appearance, he was not playing any trick, right!

Bam....

One loud sound, it should be a sound of something that was being smashed, then a tensed voice roared from the inside of the room.

“Get out!” A fierce sound gasping for breath echoed, containing a repressed emotion and different unfeeling.

Zhuo Qing was frightened, this was... Lou Xi Yan’s voice!

Lou Xi Wu’s complexion was somewhat white for a moment, her nervous hands were trembling. Looking at her appearance, it did not look as if she was pretending, could it be that Lou Xi Yan was really ill? What illness could make a cultured and refined person, at the very least in front of people that he was a cultured and refined man to become this impetuous?!

Zhuo Qing was puzzled for a time, the door inside the small storied building was suddenly opened...

# Record of Washed Grievances Chapter 21: Exchanging Blows

While I was doing some editing on chapter 23, I found out that there were at least two online versions of this novel out there. I was using the one from 19lou and apparently Din2 was using the one from bestory. I don't think there's any major difference in these two online versions. So far we only found a couple of things that the version from bestory actually had slightly different details than the version from 19lou. Again this was not major and did not change the story at all. For consistency, both Din2 & I will stick with the version from 19lou.

This chapter was edited by Din2.

Zhuo Qing was puzzled for a time, the door inside the small storied building was suddenly opened. Mo Bai's tall figure appeared at the door, the original indifferent face, showed even colder now. He was slightly rude to a 30 year old female to ask her to get out, the female was not willing and turning around repeatedly. Mo Bai's thick and broad shoulder blocked her line of sight, the female ferociously glared a glimpse at him and angrily walked out. Behind her, a black clothing elderly man with worry on his face also walked away from the small storied building, the door was tightly closed again.

Seeing the elderly man came out, Lou Xi Wu immediately met him up, anxiously spoke: "Imperial Physician Yang, how is my elder brother!"

Yang Mu shook his head, sighed and answered: "Prime Minister Daren's old illness recurred a little bit earlier this time compare to the previous years, additionally it was rapid and serious, this small subject also did not have the ability, could only let Prime Minister Daren to take the same decoction of medicinal herbs like in the previous years. Waiting for this subject and the other Imperial Physicians to consult together and detailed references afterwards, after that we would decide to use a new medicine."

Listening to Yang Mu's words, the female who was still angry a moment ago, once again raised her voice: "Fortunately the Princess delivered the medicine

today. Somebody comes over here! Quickly go to prepare the medicine!”

“Yes.” The servant who kept watching at the side answered hastily and went hurriedly towards the outside of the courtyard.

Yang Mu turned his body around towards the two youngsters, softly and hurriedly said: “You two, hurry go to invite Imperial Physician Liu, Imperial Physician Li, Imperial Physician Fu to come to Prime Minister’s manor, quickly!” If the Prime Minister had any mishap, the Imperial Dragon Yan (aka the Emperor – dragon was usually associated with the emperor in ancient China) would be furious, not only a few of them would probably be buried!

“Yes.” The youngsters nodded, broke into a run to go out. An ice-cold voice echoed timely: “The two medicines that should help, I will ask somebody to send them quickly.”

Yang Mu lifted his head to look, precisely speaking, the housekeeper of the Prime Minister’s manor, Jing Sa, there was a common saying among the people, the servant girls at the Prime Minister’s manor were over seventh ranking officials. Not to mention that the other person was nevertheless the housekeeper of the Prime Minister’s manor. Yang Mu cupped his hands to greet, turned around and said: “This will inconvenient Head Housekeeper Jing.”

Jing Sa slightly nodded to return the greeting, facing the gray clothing man behind him, he muttered a few sentences, the man rapidly moved out of the courtyard.

Inside the room, there were severe gasps of breathing sound from time to time, Lou Xi Wu’s pair of large eyes were anxious and they were watching the small storied building anxiously, her heart was worry. She was unconsciously snapping her own fingers, her slender fingers were red and swollen, it seemed that she had not become aware of it, the tears were in her eyes. Lou Xi Wu was pleading in a low voice and said “Imperial Physician Yang, I want to go in to take a look at elder brother.”

“This....” Yang Mu hesitated in a moment, the female next to her was not patience and lowly shouted: “Xi Yan is feeling unwell at the moment, what do you want to do to go in, you are also unable to help him and will only be in the way.”

Not accepting and glaring at her, Lou Xi Wu angrily said: “And yet, you could go in!”

The female slightly raised her head and with an arrogant face, answered: “Are you and I the same? I am Xi Yan’s mother, with me by his side, I can let him feel relieved a little.”

Mother!? At first, enjoying to watch a bustling scene and feeling happy, Zhou Qing started to be alarmed, her eyes were almost fell to the ground. How did she take good care of herself? Could it be that a sarcastic person could feel easily to feel cheerful, therefore she looked young?!

Zhuo Qing was casually thinking of the subjective idea, Lou Xi Wu could not bear it and roared: “Second Mother, I am elder brother’s sister! When it comes to let him feel relieved a little, it should also be me, this younger sister to wait next by his side, not you, an outsider!”

Xue Xian Xin’s complexion changed momentarily, one group of servant girls were watching, was unable to punish her today, she still had no sense of shame, coldly groaned, Xue Xian Xin loudly reprimanded: “More and more outrageous, I am this family’s mistress, I am not allowed to go in!”

In normal times, Xue Xian Xin was also a tyrannical abuser, but she did not mind it. But she did not even let her to see elder brother today, Lou Xi Wu young lady’s bad temper also flared up, she did not care that the courtyard was filled with a lot of people, scolded: “You... are just a concubine, small concubine, nonsense about being a mistress, for which reason do you not let me to go in!”

Oh... As it turned out, she was a concubine ah, she totally forgot that having 3 wives, 4 concubines was often the case in this era, only blaming that this concubine was too arrogant, so it caused her to misunderstand. Zhuo Qing softly yawned, once again was sleepy, although there was a pretty good show before her eyes, but her stomach was really hungry now. Zhuo Qing decided to go find something to eat first.

“Bang!”

Zhuo Qing stepped across to go out one step, only to hear a clear and loud sound, Zhuo Qing stared blankly, then turned her head to see, Lou Xi Wu covered her face, eyes were amazed and humiliated, tears were falling down.

Directly in front of her, the hand of the person who was hitting her was also trembling violently, the eyes were moving restlessly, the voice was also trembling unconsciously: “Do not think that Master is not present in the house all year around, Xi Yan is also pampering you, you can exaggerate your own opinion, older sister died early, I... I am this family’s mistress, nobody disciplines you, I will take care of it!”

The courtyard was full of people but nobody dared to speak out, it was silence. Oh... The conflict escalated, but Zhuo Qing decided to stay behind to watch the excitement of the reason, as a matter of fact it was not because of this, but because of that one who continuously stood on the sidelines. The ruthless and powerful Head Housekeeper Jing ever since Lou Xi Wu was beaten afterwards, his eyes were raging in anger, nearly could burn a person in a whole.

“You dare beat me!” Only hearing a roar, Lou Xi Wu already rushed out, grabbed and pulled Xue Xian Xin’s hair in a fit of confusion. Along with strength, Lou Xi Wu laid to sit on Xue Xian Xin’s body, practically punching and kicking... “Ah...” An intense yelling and crying out in alarm shouted: “Somebody comes, somebody comes ah, quickly grab this insane girl, are you all also against me?!”

Not knowing if Xue Xian Xin ordinarily behaved with integrity or extremely lacking in behavior, or the people were really terrified, after a moment, they just “woke up”, were stepping forward to help Lou Xi Wu up and advised: “Miss, calm down!”

Everyone dragged Lou Xi Wu who had not resigned, once again was kicking a few kicks, then struggling to get free from people at her side, crossing her waist to scold: “Let go, Xue Xian Xin, you dare to beat me, I tear you!”

Extremely stylish, Zhou Qing would almost applaud, this girl had temperament, she was fond of her!

However Lou Xi Yan was also able to restrain himself, outside could result in somebody’s death quickly. If he was feigning illness, whatever the outcome was, he could also make a sound, or... his illness was really serious?!

Secretly considering, Zhuo Qing decided to go in to take a look at what exactly Lou Xi Yan was doing in the end.

Xue Xian Xin stood up with great difficulty, messy hair, tilting clothes, neck had

a few strips of scarlet paw prints also to show that there was an intense battlefield situation a moment ago. Well you, Lou Xi Wu, you really think that this old woman (she's calling herself 老娘 – laoniang) is afraid of you, if I do not lecture you today, just do not call this old woman's surname Xue!!

Taking a deep breath, Xue Xian Xin turned her body, no longer looking to face Lou Xi Wu, with clear sound shouted: "Jing Sa."

Jing Sa, with coldness in his eyes, stepped forward one step, coldly answered: "Second Madam."

Looking at Jing Sa, Xue Xian Xin in a quite awe-inspiring manner brightly said: "The Lou family does not have any rule, it may be said, a daughter can hit a mother, Master is outside all year around, Xi Yan also possesses serious illness. Head Housekeeper Jing, I will ask you now, according to the Lou Family ancestor's rule, this way to offend one's superior, what section of the law should be used to punish the rude children?!"

Jing Sa's complexion was the same, nevertheless his heart sunk, Xue Xian Xin no matter how repulsive, she was still Master's wife, what Miss did today, according to the rules, she would be flogged with a stick 50 times and had to sit while facing the wall in meditation for 10 days.

Jing Sa kept silence, Xue Xian Xin also did not press, she wanted to see how long he could keep silent!

One person who did was the one who withstood, she hit her, what to do!? Just receiving punishment! Not having a heart to see Jing Sa was in a difficult situation, Lou Xi Wu clenched her teeth. Just about to open her mouth, there was a relaxed, joyful's female voice echoing faintly: "Lou Xi Yan has not died yet, but I suppose he will die in anger quickly. How can everyone have a good mood to discuss the family rules, it will be better to go in to quarrel properly, whatever the outcome will be more lively."

Everyone gasped, she was the first person who cursed at the Prime Minister to die at the Lou's manor.

"Who are you? Where do you come from?" Before everyone's eyes, a female suddenly appeared, the whole body was covered in white clothing, hair was not bundled, not caring about her appearance and incomparable with the

surroundings, especially that hideous ugly face, looking at the strange and scary person in the depth of the night would rather frighten people.

Both hands on her chest, Zhuo Qing was pretending to reflect for a moment, leisurely smiled and said: “According to your logic just now, I should be this family’s new mistress...”

## Record of Washed Grievances Chapter 22: Strange Illness (Part 1)

I cracked up laughing on some of the comments that the readers wrote on the previous chapter. I found that this author is so good in detailing the description of the scenes, that sometimes I can imagine the whole scenes in my mind as if I'm watching a drama... Go ZQ!! Sorry, another cliffhanger...

This chapter was edited by Din2.

“What!” Xue Xian Xin stared blankly, casted a quick look at Zhuo Qing, simply did not pay attention to her, unable to tolerate, she shouted: “Where did this mad woman come from to have the impertinence to behave atrociously at the Prime Minister’s manor, give her to me to throw out.”

“Stop.” Lou Xi Wu pointed at Zhuo Qing, and shouted: “She is elder brother’s woman, who dares to throw her out!?” Although she disliked this ugly woman but in contrast, Xue Xian Xin was even more hateful, she and her were just being acquainted today.

The people were looking at each other in dismay, Zhuo Qing used to follow with the flow, the first time she was known to be a certain person’s woman, this appellation was truly @\$@\$..... For the purpose of using this Madam’s spirit, also to let her fulfilled her wish to go into the small storied building, Zhuo Qing softly sighed and smilingly answered: “I am.... Qing Feng, they said that your Emperor ordered to bestow me as Lou Xi Yan’s woman. In the event that there is no first wife, a young concubine is precisely the mistress, like this madam. The Prime Minister manor’s mistress already changed its owner now.”

She was the Imperial Beauty bestowed by the Emperor?! Xue Xian Xin snorted disdainfully, sneered and said: “A bunch of nonsense! You, this ugly woman was absolutely impossible being a beauty whom the Emperor’s order to bestow to Xi Yan.”

Frowning artificially, Zhuo Qing pretended to be alarmed and shouted: “Are

you doubting Qiong Yue Emperor's foresight ?”

“I, I... I am doubting you!” Who is this woman after all?!

Clearly nodding, Zhuo Qing with an innocent face threw out a question to Jing Sa: “Jing Sa, you can answer this question better.”

This time Jing Sa actually abnormally cooperated, coldly answered: “Second Madam, she is indeed Miss (actually the words used here were 姑娘 – guniang which should be translated as young lady, but it felt weird to write young lady QF so I used Miss instead) Qing Feng who was bestowed by the Emperor to Master.”

Xue Xian Xin was somewhat panicky, she absolutely did not expect, this woman was unexpectedly really Hao Yue's beauty who was bestowed to Xi Yan. Regardless of her first appearance, watching this temper that was not meek and could easily deceive any individual, she could not let her to be arrogant. Waiving her hand, Xue Xian Xin disregarded the other person as if she had a lower status and said: “Ok, since you are the Imperial Beauty bestowed by the Emperor, I will not make things difficult for you, but I am Xi Yan's mother, the West General's Madam. As long as I am here, the mistress' position will not go to you. Ok, ok, return to your courtyard.”

Was this second mistress giving her an obstacle? Zhuo Qing laughed, if it was not because she wanted to go in to take a look at Lou Xi Yan on what sinister plot he was doing, she would quickly jump out to contradict with her? She was really hungry and unexpectedly wasting time with her nonsense. Zhuo Qing did not show mercy and answered: “Second Madam, right. If I am not mistaken, here is the Prime Minister's manor, it is not the General's manor. This being the case, the Prime Minister's manor, naturally, the Prime Minister's woman is the Mistress. You, as the mother, could still enjoy a good health properly in later years.”

“You, you, you...” She went so far as to curse her early demise!

Xue Xian Xin's angry complexion blushed, her spoken words were all unclear, Zhuo Qing unhurriedly laughed and smily answered: “Your old body must be taken care of ah! I go in to take a look at Xi Yan, you return to rest, ok.”

Finish speaking, she did not turn around but moved forward to walk. Xue Xian

Xin was angry and her face looked like she was about to collapse. Lou Xi Wu did not give any face and laughed heartily and chased after Zhuo Qing to come near to the small storied building.

Glaring to look at that leisurely white shadow, Xue Xian Xin's eyes filled with bitter resentment, hand was holding firmly in a fist, her finger nails were deeply stabbing her palm. Well, this Qing Feng! We would wait and see who would die first in the end!

Feeling a bitter expression behind her back, Zhuo Qing did not pay any attention and walked to the side door. Against watching a farce, stiff at the side of the Imperial Physician and quietly said: "Imperial Physician, I just want to see him properly from outside of the living room, will not disturb you to treat his illness."

Yang Mu finally recovered, promptly nodded and said: "Ok, ok." Even though this woman's face was damaged, still artistically as if it was made by heaven. Her words were sharp and eloquent a moment ago, she was good at understanding others and sensible now, clearly not an average family's young lady! Yang Mu saw how many woman fought openly and maneuver covertly within the palace. He understood thoroughly early that behaving with integrity to handle matters was the way to survive.

Slowly opening the door, Zhuo Qing took the lead to walk in, directly facing the door was a set of seats to receive visitors. There were several calligraphy and paintings hanging on the wall, very simple. Across the side of the big screen, although hazy, it could clearly be seen that the inside room was more spacious compared to the outside, but the specific decorations could not be seen meticulously.

The Imperial Physician and the medicine child walked to go in, Zhuo Qing and Lou Xi Wu could only wait at the outside.

Actually standing outside the screen, she could not see very clearly the situation inside the room, illuminated by candle-light, could only see Mo Bai tall's body who was guarding at the side of the bed. The Imperial Physician sat on the bed to feel the pulse, carefully listening to the heavy panting like asthma attack, but unable to see the patient, Zhuo Qing could not make a conclusion.

Foolishly standing at the outside of the screen was really boring, Zhuo Qing turned towards one side to stare at the not blinking Lou Xi Wu and asked: "He falls ill frequently?"

It was probably because Zhuo Qing helped her a moment ago, Lou Xi Wu's impression was a little good towards her, eyes not leaving the person, Lou Xi Wu softly answered: "Usually in the spring, usually all are good, as soon as he is falling ill like this, he is unable to breathe."

"For how long?"

Mentioning this, Lou Xi Wu seemed somewhat jittery: "This ailment was from childhood, treatments for how many years, also did not see any good result."

From childhood? That should not be too difficult to fix, but congenital asthma should not break out seasonally ah? Secretly pondering, both people in the room suddenly heard the sound of a few urgent grasping sounds, followed by a burst of trembling and hectic sound.

"Master!!" Along with Mo Bai's worry and low cry out, the anxious Lou Xi Wu was unable to deal with these many things, straightforwardly burst into the inside room. Zhuo Qing hesitated for a moment, nevertheless finally followed to go in.

The candle flame shined upon very brightly inside of the room, an incredibly large bed, covered with a thick and long feather silk quilt, snow white of silk quilt, against the skin of Lou Xi Yan's original fair face made him even paler. He was laying down on the bed, abnormal shortness of breath, overbearingly short breath, one hand tightly pulled the front jacket on his chest. On the forehead and cheeks were full of sweats, black hair was half bound and also covered with sweat. He could not control his body with violent movement with every breath he had. This... was not fake, also did not appear to be faked.

"Elder brother..." Lou Xi Wu was sobbing. Looking at this kind of Lou Xi Yan and recalling that he was in his prime with a high-spirited appearance in the daytime, Zhuo Qing could not adapt, even more so for Lou Xi Wu.

Yang Mu's one hand was pressing Lou Xi Yan, while calling out loud: "Hurry, hurry, come over and get my needle."

“Yes, yes!” The medicine boy was flustered and rummaged through to try to find it, finally brought a small box of silver needle to pass on. Taking the silver needle, Yang Mu however did not know how to put down the needle. Lou Xi Yan was always violently moving up and down every time he was breathing, his whole body moved, how could he put the needle down?! If he made a mistake in one acupuncture point, did he want or not want his life?!

Yang Mu hesitated not knowing how to do it properly, Zhuo Qing grudgingly shook her head. Everyone had a shocked and amazed expression, Zhuo Qing lifted her feet to directly step across to go to the bed...

## Record of Washed Grievances Chapter 23: Strange Illness (Part 2)

Please make sure that you check the main page to read the update for this novel as I do not know how to update the index that Nutty has created yet.

This chapter was edited by Din2.

Yang Mu hesitated not knowing how to do it properly, Zhuo Qing grudgingly shook her head. Everyone had a shocked and amazed expression, Zhuo Qing lifted her feet to directly step across to go to the bed. Climbing on the inside of the bed, half kneeling next to Lou Xi Yan's side, both hands were pushing his shoulder. Thinking to help, but she did not expect that the seemingly meager's Lou Xi Yan was actually very muscly, strong and annoyingly heavy.

Unable to use force, Zhou Qing faced Mo Bai and said: "Blue eyes, help him to sit up."

Mo Bai's eyes with a trace of uncertainty, coldly stared at her. Zhuo Qing impatiently growled: "If you do not want him to die, hurry up!"

Mo Bai slightly hesitated for a moment, still helped Lou Xi Yan to sit up, Lou Xi Yan just sat up straight. Zhuo Qing tore open his folded upper garment, one hand touched his back, while the other hand was immediately stroking his unrestricted chest... Lou Xi Yan suddenly grabbed Zhuo Qing's wrist, his slender eyes were suddenly opened big, two people's eyes were connected. Zhuo Qing was dazzled for a split second, these pair were sometimes inspiring, sometimes sly, calculating eyes were just like a pool of deep water now, so deep to make her flustered. A number of flowing sweat was sliding along the cheeks, dropping on Zhuo Qing's arm and her hand shook. He grabbed her arm and hand even tighter, his hand was different during day time, cold and gentle, his hand now had a great strength and palm was burning hot.

Looking at Zhuo Qing's hand stopped at Lou Xi Yan's chest, Lou Xi Wu was unable to endure at this time. Zhuo Qing was facing her elder brother, she

practically screamed and roared: “What are you, this ugly woman, doing?! Let go, let go!!” (See comment below).

Paying no attention to Lou Xi Wu’s screaming, Zhuo Qing returned to look at Lou Xi Yan’s deep eyes, softly said: “ Lou Xi Yan, you need to relax, follow the rhythm of my breath.”

“Inhale, exhale, inhale, exhale...”

Lou Xi Yan frowned, what is she doing?! After suffocating, sitting up seemed to feel a little better, looking at her earnestly accompanying him to exert her physical strength to breathe, Lou Xi Yan’s heart was warm. Slowly relaxing his strong hand in the end, along with her rhythm to breathe, the hand was not letting go from start to finish.

All the people expressionlessly were looking at Zhuo Qing who was guiding Lou Xi Yan to exhale and inhale, they had never seen this kind of treatment, but strangely speaking, Lou Xi Yan sat like this to breathe deeply several times afterwards, though breathing was still very difficult, but it did not look like a moment ago, that kind of breathing that seemed to exhaust the whole body’s strength every time.

Several breathing afterwards, Zhuo Qing raised her head to glare at Yang Mu, with a cold voice scolded: “You continue with your treatment, what are you doing looking at me!”

Yang Mu finally recovered, repeatedly answered: “Oh, oh...” Taking action and not daring to neglect, he put down the needle.

One burning stick of incense afterwards...

By means of the Imperial Physician and Zhuo Qing’s great effort, Lou Xi Yan appeared to be a little better, breathing appeared to be smoother, but his complexion was still pale.

Yang Mu put away the needle, using the sleeve of his garment to wipe the thin sweats on his forehead, secretly relaxing. It was really dangerous a moment ago, fortunately that Miss Qing used a strange trick, otherwise the consequences would indeed be unthinkable.

“Master, here is the medicine.” The medicine child was holding a bowl of pure

black medicine concoction, carefully walked in.

The medicine had not yet in front of her, Zhuo Qing already smelled the thick traditional Chinese medicine right away. Fortunately she chose Western medicine during that time, this terrible smell, just the smell was already made her nauseous. She wanted to use her hand to cover her nose, but discovered that Lou Xi Yan was still holding her wrist tightly. Raising up to look, his long and narrow eyes faintly flashed through a cold ray. She remembered before coming in, Lou Xi Yan threw down the medicine bowl once, he also disliked traditional Chinese medicine?! Or...

Yang Mu took the medicine bowl and placed it in front of the bed, Mo Bai stepped forward one step, coldly said: "Imperial Physician Yang, let me do it."

"This..." Extremely nervous there would be another mishap, Yang Mu hesitated whether or not to personally attend to Prime Minister Lou to drink the medicine, an elegant with indifferent smiling expression's voice leisurely echoed: "Imperial Physician, you are also tired for the whole night, it will be better to rest at the room next door first, wait until the other Imperial Physicians to arrive. You still have to be busy, just hand over to us to take over in here first."

The words were said with compassion, but also with irresistible force, Yang Mu raised to look on, only saw an easy-mannered woman sitting on the bed, without a trace of pretense. One hand was tightly grasped by Prime Minister Lou, it was no wonder, her imposing manner was very excessive a moment ago, as it turned out, Prime Minister Lou gave her support! Restraining his eyes hurriedly, Yang Mu gave the bowl of medicine to Mo Bai, and bowed to answer: "Alright, I will have to thank you for your trouble, Madam, I will be in the room next door, if you have anything just call me."

"Good." Zhuo Qing actually did not pay attention to this Madam's appellation, even more did not pay attention when Lou Xi Yan's corner of mouth softly raised.

"Elder brother..." With trembling lips, Lou Xi Wu half-kneeled in front of the bed, she did not want to cry, but could not control the tears as they fell down. Softly lifting his hand and gently wiping Lou Xi Wu's tears, Lou Xi Yan softly said: "I am all right. Xi Wu, elder brother has words to speak to Miss Qing, you go out

first.”

“En.” Looking a glance at Zhuo Qing, Lou Xi Wu did not say anything, obediently retreated.

Mo Bai also retreated to the outside of the screen, only remained these two people, Lou Xi Yan and Zhuo Qing, two people were like this face to face sitting on the spacious bed. Lou Xi Yan was obviously gasping for breath, panting up and down, also the front of his jacket was open a little, strong chest, visible vague abdominal muscle, the half-bund black ink hair was drooping.... Zhuo Qing conceded, it was a feast for the eyes, but staring at somebody like this, was it or was it not too excessive? However, if she did not look this way, also would injure his ego, right.... Zhuo Qing unbridledly looked until that pair of mischievous tiny eyes were met by accident. Zhuo Qing was embarrassed, lightly sighing and saying: “It is best that you speak less now, have more rest, whatever you want to say, can wait until you are a little well.”

“I think I want to ask for your help.”

Lifting up, Lou Xi Yan grabbed her arm, Zhuo Qing straightforwardly answered: “You can say it, but can you let me go down first?!”

She also knew how to be embarrassed? Lou Xi Yan laughed, he had never seen any family’s daughter who could stare at a man like this, still looked with keen interest pleasure! Lou Xi Yan did not want to make her feel embarrassed, softly let go of her hand. Zhuo Qing hurriedly got up, jumped down the bed, did not forget to grab a few pillow cushions to put on the lower back of Lou Xi Yan, and let him to lean on them to sit.

Looking at the silhouette who was busy at his side, Lou Xi Yan suddenly lowered his voice, softly answered: “I have been sick for some years, the medical treatments have not worked out. I saw that your method was very effective a moment ago. I hope that you can stay by my side to take care of me.”

“I could only provide first aid a moment ago, nothing more. I do not know how to treat a specific medical treatment.” She learned western medicine, ok! Let her cut open a corpse then she would not have any problem. Treating an illness was not her specialty, especially at a situation and a place where there was no medical equipment.

“It does not matter. You can help me during the most painful time, it is already enough.”

The low sound of sighing made Zhuo Qing felt uncomfortable without any reason, he was better suited to have high-spirited appearance, but Lou Xi Yan was really strange. Speaking that he feigned illness? Impossible, the outbreak of his illness’ appearance just now could not be faked. Speaking that he really had illness, why did he not use the medicine? On the surface, surely there was some unknown secret, but she did not have any interest to know, she only wanted to find Gu Yun!

Coming up with an idea, Zhuo Qing would no longer be at a loss intertwining with Lou Xi Yan’s goal, calmly answered: “Very well, I can stay but I want to see my sisters in one month.”

“Ok.” For him, this was a trivial matter, nothing more.

“Very good, it seemed that we had reached a consensus.” Picking up the medicine herbs that Mo Bai left behind, Zhuo Qing did not go back and went to Lou Xi Yan, walking to the front of the window, with a pity face, she said: “Hey, this medicine had cooled down, the medicine’s effect would be different, or could wait for the Imperial Physician to boil a new medicine again to drink.” The hand did not show the slightest hesitation, the entire medicine concoction was poured into the growing plants in the pot in front of the window.

She turned towards him, fiddled with the growing plants in the pot satisfyingly. Lou Xi Yan was watching attentively at her eyes, increasingly deeper. She was actually a lot more intelligent than what he had anticipated.... Letting go of the growing plants in the pot, Zhuo Qing prepared to leave, from outside the room, Jing Sa’s icy arrogant voice suddenly echoed: “Master, the Emperor came.”

The Emperor came!? Lou Xi Yan softly called: “Mo Bai.” Mo Bai entered the bedroom, Lou Xi Yan spoke a few sentences in his ear afterwards. He suddenly got up to pull Zhuo Qing to go out. Zhuo Qing was unable to understand, what was he doing ah?! Why did it concern her that the Emperor came? Why on earth were they nervous? Was she shameful?

Two people walked out of the screen, outside the room the voice was paying respect: “Long live, long live, long live the Emperor!”

Evidently the Emperor was already at the outside courtyard, Mo Bai could only pull her back in once again. Zhuo Qing rolled her eyes, this room was large, but there was no room to hide!

“No need for the courtesy!” Along with an irritable and overbearing majestic presence, a male voice sounded, the door was suddenly pushed open.

Sian's note:

In 19lou's version, the author used “放手, 放手” which was translated above as “let go, let go”. It could be translated literary as “let go of hand”. However, in bestory, the author actually used 4 different characters “上下其手”. I had to ask my Taiwanese's friend for the translation because this was one of the new slang that a lot of novels were using recently according to her. This is what she said “1 hands. 2 feel one up. 3 grope or fondle somebody. 4 lay one's (dirty) paws. But it didn't meaning this long time ago.” I guess, the English translation will be something a long the line “stop groping and laying your hand on my brother”

# Record of Washed Grievances Chapter 24: The Emperor Arrived

I have to say that I really enjoy the interactions between Lou Xi Yan & Yan Hong Tian... I don't feel bad for Zhou Qing's "losing" encounters with Lou Xi Yan so far. Even the Emperor can't go toe to toe with our dear Prime Minister. Hehehe... Feb & Asu, this chapter will answer your questions from the previous chapter. This author has thought the whole plots on all three books nicely as you can see...

This chapter was edited by Din2.

"No need for the courtesy!" Along with an irritable and overbearing majestic presence, a male voice sounded, the door was suddenly pushed open, almost simultaneously, the candle flame was originally bright inside the room. Mo Bai softly brushed away his sleeve, unexpectedly he left behind a weak candle light, the rest of the candles were completely extinguished.

Zhuo Qing was pushed by Mo Bai to the other side of the screen, she still had not reacted, the hand already had a tray, a hasty and rapid footsteps also sounded. Zhuo Qing looked up to look, just to meet one tall silhouette coming hurriedly. The man's back was facing Zhuo Qing, she was unable to see his appearance, only saw his dark gray long gown, embroidered with gold cuffs with dragon cloud design, low-profile while to the greatest extent prominent with unlimited luxurious, at the same time would show his domineering, honorable and imposing manner.

The man entered the door, catching sight of Lou Xi Yan's back which was leaning against the cushions, half sitting, complexion was heavy, lowly roared to say: "You lie down properly, what are you doing sitting up!"

"Where is the Imperial Physician?" The inside room was so big, but could only see Mo Bai and a maid. The man immediately flipped out: "That person did not want his life, where did he run this time?!"

Zhuo Qing gently scooped her ear, this was the so-called sovereign king's energy, Royal's appearance?! This Emperor's temperament was apparently not good. She would be better to act properly, lowering her head, Zhuo Qing closed her eyes to regain composure.

Lou Xi Yan softly touched his forehead, lowered his head and smiled to answer: "I just drank the medicine, already felt a little bit better, you shouted so my head hurt!" Not only he has a bad temper but also a loud voice!

Staring to look at him, Yan Hong Tian coldly groaned to say: "You can not differentiate good from bad type of person, hearing that you were ill, without stopping to rest I came over in a hurry, you would better be good!" In this entire Qiong Yue, possibly speaking for the six countries in the continent, supposedly, he was the only one who dared to speak to him this way.

Lou Xi Yan immediately sat straight, firmly cupped both of his hands and answered: "This subject is terrified, does not dare to toil the Emperor to take a lot of trouble over this subject."

"Lou... Xi... Yan...!"

Lou Xi Yan lightly raised his eyebrows, Yan Hong Tian's cold eyes slightly narrowed, the two people were staring at each other. Zhuo Qing secretly guessed, these two people, the ruler and his minister's relationships were indeed unconventional, then they would not want to have a fight, right! Unfortunately she was disappointed, only to see Yan Hong Tian suddenly sat down on the bed to see Lou Xi Yan's complexion was indeed gradually better, he softly asked: "Are you satisfied with that present?"

"What present?" Lou Xi Yan was startled.

"Qing Feng."

"She..." Lightly lifting his eyes to look across Yan Hong Tian's shoulder, looking a glance at a docile and obedient Zhuo Qing who was standing behind, Lou Xi Yan gently smiled and answered: "Very good."

Very good? But Xi Yan rarely evaluated a woman this way. "Have you enjoyed her?" (This is implying if LXY has already "xoxo" ZQ. Hehehe)

Enjoyed her!?

Was she a pork chop meal?! What did he take a woman for?! Zhuo Qing's head was filled with sinister line... Zhuo Qing's gloomy appearance amused Lou Xi Yan, changing the subject, Lou Xi Yan repressed a low cough: "Ahem, ahem, ahem..."

"Why were you coughing again!" Yan Hong Tian frowned, patting him on his back, said: "You are not young anymore, should have a main wife, also good for your Lou's family to keep the incense burning in front of a temple! (I think this is a saying that in the ancient period or maybe still happens in China that a daughter in law is usually the one responsible to take care of those ancestors related prayer, takes care of the house, etc) you and Xuan-er's matter..."

Without waiting until Yan Hong Tian finished talking, Lou Xi Yan gently sighed and answered: "I, this half dead person, who will follow me to suffer hardship, the main wife's matter will have to do it slowly."

Lou Xi Yan merely said some random words, but attracted Yan Hong Tian's anger: "What nonsense, Xuan-er can follow you is her good fortune, you do not seem to like Xuan-er, once more choosing in the same way."

Unwilling to receive this spoken words, Lou Xi Yan found an excuse to change the subject: "Bei Qi and Di Nu, both countries are in a civil war all year round, this time Bei Qi comes to Qiong Yue to make customary deferences, I think that they come to ask for help."

"Good fight! Bei Qi wants Qiong Yue to undertake a task, just see what kind of price they are willing to pay. You must not trouble yourself with this matter." Understanding that he was not willing to take part in Xuan-er's marriage, Yan Hong Tian also did not force him. In this whole world, he could force anybody, only Xi Yan, he could not. Lightly patting Lou Xi Yan's shoulder, he got up and said: "Rest properly, keep the body well. I leave first, do not come to the imperial court these few days."

"Ok."

Yang Hong Tian got up to walk to the front of the screen, suddenly stopped his footsteps, looked a glance at the maid who was at the corner. At Xi Yan's side always had Mo Bai only, when did he have a maid by his side? The woman always bowed her head, Yan Hong Tian did not examine carefully and raised his legs to leave.

Zhuo Qing secretly sighed, this man's attacking nature was really strong, he merely swept her a glance just now, she could already sense a hostility from that pair of black eyes. Confirming that Yan Hong Tian already left, Zhuo Qing immediately put down the tray, Lou Xi Yan thought that she would ask a few questions at the minimum, but did not expect that she did not ask anything. Hurriedly advancing to walk over to the outside door, Lou Xi Yan worriedly asked: "Where are you going?"

Zhuo Qing did not turn her head but faintly floated a clear sentence: "Looking for food."

Lou Xi Yan was surprised for a moment, trying to collect himself and not knowing whether to cry or laugh. She was anxious and frantic, just because she wanted to find food?!

Zhuo Qing went out a moment later, Jing Sa's hand was holding a picture scroll, softly pushed the door open to enter, stood at the outside of the screen, softly said: "Master, the investigation has finally finished."

A tired whisper sounded from the bedroom: "Come in and speak."

Jing Sa entered the bedroom, one hand was unfolding the picture scroll, and said: "The Qing sisters are prestigious, there are many people who collect their portraits in the capital. This was from Hao Yue's poem gathering last year, the three Qing Family's Misses composed poetry and they were painted by a scholar, Zhang Han." On the picture, the three women were standing in front of a short table, a blue clothing woman was holding a palm-leaf fan, her hand was softly grinding with graceful posture, elegant smile. In the middle was a purple clothing woman who was properly taking up a pen to write something, flying confident eyes. Behind her, also had a petite figure woman in green with a silk handkerchief on her hand, the face had a gentle smile, delicate, charming and enchanting. Three people with three different bearings, but each one had a beauty and wonderful appearance, merely a painting, already was unable to stop oneself.

Looking at the appearance, the woman in the middle should be Qing Feng, she was posing like a noble and virtuous on the painting, dainty appearance. In reality, she was defiant, arrogant and self-sustaining. Looking at the smile on the

painting, then comparing it to her current condition felt like having a flowery nightmare about the woman. Lou Xi Yan's face appeared colder, a gentle voice with some chilliness asked: "Who hurt her face?"

Jing Sa and Mo Bai looked at each other for a glimpse, in the opposite side's eyes had also seen a very light touch of surprise, happiness, anger, without showing any feeling's type of Master, the mood seemed to be excessively excited tonight, they somewhat understood clearly in their hearts. Jing Sa bowed his head lightly and with melancholy answered truthfully: "It was herself. The three Qing Family's sisters emphatically did not wish to act as the gifts to be delivered to Qiong Yue, Hao Yue's King caught their father and mother to threaten them, did not expect that the two elders' Qing Family died in prison unexpectedly. Before they started on the journey, they disfigured their faces themselves, also tried to hang themselves in the past. However, they were not successful, were rescued and immediately delivered to enter Qiong Yue."

Suicide? He did not believe Qing Feng would kill herself, at the minimum he had seen this calm and arrogant woman to run into this kind of matter for a length of time, absolutely would not choose to kill herself! Pondering, Lou Xi Yan asked: "What other characteristics do the Qing Family's sisters have?"

"Madam Qing was Hao Yue's well-known tattoo expert, almost all Hao Yue Country's noblewomen tried to invite Madam Qing because they wanted to tattoo in between their eyebrows with floral decoration. During the one month's old birthday for the three Misses Qing, Madam Qing tattooed the last character of their names on their bodies, therefore if she was truly Qing Feng, her body should have a tattoo of the character Feng."

"Conferring this one Feng's character on her body was merely a simple matter, right." Mo Bai frowned, what characteristic this was, Jing Sa could investigate so other people could also investigate it.

Jing Sa shook his head, staunchly answered: "This one characteristic, only the Qing Family's sisters will know their existence. It was said that Madam Qing had a supreme feat, the character's tattoos on their bodies would not come out during normal time, only during the time when their moods were stirred up or the body temperature raised, it would appear, also she only used this technique on her own daughters' bodies.

“Look for an opportunity to verify her body whether or not she has a Feng character.” This woman’s behavior was entirely different than an ordinary person, at the very least, he wanted to be certain whether or not she was Qing Feng.

Jing Sa’s face was stiff, did not reply for a very long time, Lou Xi Yan sensed Jing Sa’s peculiar, softly asked: “Where is the location of the tattoo?”

“.....”

Sian’s note:

In 19lou’s version, the answer to the last question is indeed a blank. But I’m sure most of you have already known the answer to that question if you have read book 2 and 3 of the series. In bestory’s version, there is an actual answer to that question. Since I’m sticking with the 19lou’s version, I’m leaving the part as is. If there’s any of you who doesn’t know the answer to the question, please leave me a comment and I can email you the answer directly or you can wait until Chapter 28 as the author kind of answers this question indirectly so you may want to wait to see if you guess it right at that time.

# Record of Washed Grievances Chapter 25: Cottons

I think the title kind of gives away the reason on why LXY has asthma every spring...

This chapter was edited by Din2.

The morning ray of spring was charming and warm, really comfortable when it was lightly sprinkling on the people's bodies, she did not have any chance to take a look at this small courtyard last night, it seemed delicate. Zhuo Qing could not help to say that Lou Xi Yan's taste was very good, the small storied building was located at the rear of the courtyard, the front of the small storied building had a small open space, where a row of stone tables and stone benches were placed. Standing here to look at the scenery, felt refreshing, looking up to look was just a wide expanse of the unlimitedness lake, and the merging of the azure horizon, vast and tranquil. Zhuo Qing secretly sighed, truly extravagant ah, the 21st century's land was extremely expensive, who could dig that big of lake at the home, but couldn't help to say, Lou Xi Yan could really enjoy it, woke up to see this kind of clear, vast waters, bad mood would be very difficult.

Stretching her waist, Zhuo Qing slightly raised her head, amazed to find, under the wall next to the lake, there were 3-4 full grown cotton trees, very beautiful, tall branches with powerful extensions, fiery and huge red flowers were splendid. Looking far away, it looked like a nest flame, and the dark green water in the lake was shining, nothing was more beautiful that one could imagine, however, how could Lou Xi Yan's courtyard grow cottons?!

Zhuo Qing lifted her feet to walk, gently picked up the falling flowers and lost in thought.

Catching up with Lou Xi Wu's sight first thing in the morning, she unexpectedly was still at Lou Xi Yan's courtyard, shouted: "Qing Feng, why are you still here?! I will tell you this, do not think that just because my brother allows you to stay at Zhai Xing pavilion, you are really the Lou Family's mistress, you are only just a small concubine, remember that?!"

Zhuo Qing lowered her head, only to watch attentively at one spoiled blossoming flower, Lou Xi Wu was puzzled, what was so good looking about one spoiled flower? Walking behind her, Lou Xi Yan was not patient and shouted: “Hey, did you or did you not hear me speak?!”

Zhuo Qing refused to acknowledge the shout, she touched the thick and solid tree trunk, asked: “Were these few cottons planted at the courtyard?”

“You knew these were called cottons?” Lou Xi Wu stared blankly, but rapidly felt proud of herself, smily answered: “I would tell you a little insight, we Qiong Yue did not have any cotton tree, a small country in the border of Nan Jiang offered a tribute of cotton seeds many years ago. In the entire Qiong Yue, only West Empress Dowager’s palace had cotton trees, these few trees were bestowed by the West Empress Dowager for elder brother’s official salute as a Prime Minister.”

“West Empress Dowager? There is also East Empress Dowager?” Zhuo Qing voluntarily asked.

“There is ah.” Mentioning this, Lou Xi Wu’s head unconsciously raised higher: “The East Empress Dowager is my aunt.”

“Lou Xi Yan and the Emperor are cousins?” No wonder, Lou Xi Yan and the Emperor did not resemble a common ruler and minister’s relation last night.

Seeing Zhuo Qing’s attitude that was not very aggressive today, after last night, she did not dislike her anymore. Lou Xi Wu’s mood was pretty good, nodded and replied: “You can consider it that way, my aunt is always the owner of the East palace. But for many years, the West palace’s Imperial Concubine De that is the West Empress Dowager at present time was very doted by the former Emperor. She had two sons and one daughter, the former Emperor wanted aunt to adopt and foster the eldest son, to become the crown prince. When we were young, I and elder brother frequently entered the palace, so elder brother and Huangdi gege (LXW called the Emperor huangdi gege-皇帝哥哥 & can be translated as elder brother emperor. I’m keeping the pinyin) grew up together, as brothers.

Zhuo Qing pretended to understand clearly and nodded her head, she smiled and said: “That much rare tree species are bestowed to Lou Xi Yan, West

Empress Dowager surely likes your elder brother lo.”

Lou Xi Wu answered: “Indeed without a doubt, she still wishes that her daughter, Princess Chao Yun is betrothed to be given to my elder brother.”

Lightly rubbing her hands, Zhuo Qing’s brows easily wrinkled, how to say it, they were not enemies, why did she deliver him cottons? Was it accidental or.... Zhuo Qing’s complexion sunk coldly, once again, stared at her hands that had the spoiled flower. Lou Xi Wu misunderstood that she was worry for her own status, stepped forward one pace, said in whisper: “But you can be at ease, we, Lou’s family does not like the new and then hate the old, and climb up or admire the power from other people, as long as you attend my elder brother nicely, no one will make life difficult for you.”

Zhuo Qing recovered, could not help but forced a smile, whom Lou Xi Yan would marry with, it should not have any relation with her, all right! She was merely curious, nothing more.

Under the cotton trees, two women’s thoughts were different, a frivolous and mocking male voice suddenly echoed: “Ck, ck, ck, where did the small beauty come from?”

Zhuo Qing and Lou Xi Wu turned around to see at the same time, saw Jing Sa’s side, there was a man with white clothing. Zhuo Qing’s complexion immediately sank, he was the man who ‘wished for the whole world to be in chaos’ at Niu Jia Village! Completely ignoring him, Zhuo Qing turned towards the side of the lake where the bridge was.

Who would have thought that Qi Tian Yu was unwilling to give up unexpectedly. He came up to meet her, Zhuo Qing raised her head, coldly looked back at him, approached Qi Tian Yu and he discovered, this woman’s right cheek had two deep scars, ruined her smooth as jade stunning look. Looking from a distant a moment ago, her body was wearing raw silk clothing and hand was holding a spoiled flower. She was standing proud and aloof, with threatening temperament, and entering to discover now, that her face was unexpectedly this shattered.

The woman with a ruined face would usually use hair to cover it, or bow her head to hide from other people’s line of sight, she certainly was different, her

knee length hair was agile and knotted into a braid, she did not have any hair accessory. Her face also clearly showed the lovely front, especially her eyes, sharp and arrogant, along with her face, his heart actually jumped, this woman was indeed interesting. Facing her, feeling more interested and stopping Zhuo Qing's path, Qi Tian Yu raised his head and believed himself to give the most handsome smile, asked: "As it turns out, young lady is an ice beauty, I like it and dare to ask young lady's name?"

Lightly raising her hand, the spoiled flower on her hand fell to the ground, Zhuo Qing coldly answered: "I dislike frivolous man, not pure."

Qi Tian Yu's smile was stiffed, Lou Xi Wu's lips smiled, when did she ever see Qi gege was beaten. Looking at his embarrassed face, Lou Xi Wu's kindly answered: "Qi gege, she is called Qing Feng."

Qing Feng, she was Qing Feng, how could her face change like this?! Qi Tian Yu secretly doubted, his hands still clasped to give greetings, smiley said: "Miss Qing, this small life gives courtesy." She did not like the frivolous type, she would like the scholar type, right!

"I even dislike a pretentious man more, nauseating."

Qi Tian Yu's smile was stiffed on his face, uglier than crying, Lou Xi Wu could not help to laugh heartily anymore. Qi gege's facial expression was extremely laughable.

The cool face who was standing to the side, the expressionless Jing Sa's corner of mouth floated a suspicious smiling expression. Qi Tian Yu did not know whether to laugh or cry, he did not offend her!!

"What was the matter that made you smile and this happy ah!" A hearty laugh sounded at the time, Xue Xian Xin who was taking along a few servant girls came.

Qi Tian Yu slightly gave courtesy, smily said: "Long time no see, Madam has not changed one bit."

With an exaggerated smile, Xue Xian Xin cynically smiled and said: "Yo, it is Qi Da Gongzi (大公子-an honorary title for a noble) who comes, it is no wonder that our family Xi Wu smiles this happy, indeed when a girl is of age, she must be married off ah!"

This one family was best to get lost early, she had this type of crafty's temperament, only suited to manage the street type of family!

Lou Xi Wu's gaze was nervous and swept along to Jing Sa, immediately shouted: "Second mother, you should not speak nonsense!"

Zhuo Qing gently raised her eyebrows, this young woman was unlikely to be committed in a puppy love, right?

Looking at her gnashing her teeth, Xue Xian Xin's mood felt better, deliberately said: "You still feel ashamed!"

Looking at Lou Xi Wu anxiously clenching her fist, Qi Tian Yu set out to mediate, smily said: "Madam is cracking a joke at me, right, Xi Wu's age is still young, I think of her as my little sister."

"Good, elder brother and little sister, just enough!" Xue Xian Xin was also afraid that Lou Xi Wu would be violent like last night, crossed them over, Xue Xian Xin walked to one side towards Jing Sa and asked: "Have Xi Yan already woken up?"

Behind her back, a servant girl was carrying medicine drug concoction that was similar to the one from last night. Zhuo Qing thought, stepped forward and said: "Give me the medicine."

"Give you the medicine?" Xue Xian Xin changed direction to walk to Zhou Qing in a circle, with a stern voice said: "You really think yourselves as this family's mistress? What a joke! I looked at Xi Yan as a sick person last night, did not want to bicker with you. You would better give me a little peace."

As it turned out, she was after this mistress' title! Zhuo Qing indifferently answered: "I am not interested in this mistress position, but his medicine is my responsibility."

Not interested! She is definitely not interested in this! Xue Xian Xin sarcastically smiled: "Very brave, who gives you the courage to behave atrociously at the Prime Minister's manor? Jing Sa, throw her out of the house for me!"

Jing Sa was motionless, Xue Xian Xin was about to flip out, when the door of the small storied building was slowly opened, Lou Xi Yan's muffled and gentle

voice echoed: “It is me who gives her the courage.”

# Record of Washed Grievances Chapter 26: Hot Spring Garden (Part 1)

I can't sleep tonight so I'll post this ahead of the schedule...

This chapter was edited by Din2.

"It is me who gives her the courage." A muffled and gentle voice echoed, Xue Xian Xin originally still wanted to make threatening gestures, her face instantly changed into a big smile and turned around to welcome, her face was in distressed, very considerately, said: "Xi Yan ah, why did you get up, quite a big illness a moment ago. How can you recover properly if you are affected by the cold and wind."

Zhuo Qing was stupefied, it was a pity if this woman did not go acting, she was arrogant and autocratic just a moment ago, and yet docile, graceful and caring more like a mother now... This, her face changing skill was considered to be knowledgeable in the end.

Lou Xi Yan was accustomed to the act, indifferently answered: "I am much better, give my medicine to Qing Feng in the future." After speaking, he was looking towards Zhuo Qing, advancing and slowly extending his hand.

What is he doing? Zhuo Qing stood motionless, Lou Xi Yan also did not speak, only smiled and looked at her lovingly. Zhuo Qing could not stand it and rolled her eyes, what kind of expression he was giving! If she did not walk to him, it would look like she was unable to tell good from bad and reprehensible, the problem was, the relationship between him and her did not even exist, OK!!

Lou Xi Yan was really patience, the other people were in a daze watching attentively at Zhuo Qing. Zhuo Qing's heart once again cursed over and over again, she discovered for the first time that her patience was very good. Taking a deep breath, forgetting about it, looking at him as a sick person now, Zhuo Qing unwillingly was walking towards him.

Lou Xi Yan was seizing Zhuo Qing's shoulder lightly, he was clearly favoring

Zhuo Qing's behavior. Looking at Xue Xian Xin, she was not a fool, then put the medicine on the stone table. Xue Xian Xin smily sighed: "Very well, you said it, second mother did it for your own good."

Lightly nodded, Lou Xi Yan answered: "You still have to worry about some meddlesome affairs at home, you go get busy, ok!"

Xue Xian Xin nodded, conveniently smiled and said: "That... is also good, but you must drink this medicine while it is still warm." Taking along the group of servant girls, Xue Xian Xin quickly departed, her smiling expression on the face was already gone long ago. She underestimated this Qing Feng, only a short one day, Qing Feng unexpectedly already obtained Lou Xi Yan's favor. This was absolutely a fierce role, she had to think it properly...

Both hands were on the chest, Qi Tian Yu lowly smiled to mock and said: "I was thinking that you were still very ill, hurriedly rushed to go to you first thing in the morning, I saw that you were actually very much enjoying it." Accompanied by a beautiful woman, where did he look like a sick person!

Lightly lifting his eyes, Lou Xi Yan strolled casually and said: "You came to visit a sick person, not because you were having a free time."

En? Qi Tian Yu lightly raised his eyebrows, Xi Yan's words sounded like, seemed like somewhat sour eh.

Neglecting Qi Tian Yu's probing expression, Lou Xi Yan asked: "I remember that your home that is located at the outskirts of the city has a courtyard, and a hot spring?"

Why did he suddenly ask this question? Qi Tian Yu answered: "Right, it is spring time now, soaking in the hot spring is very comfortable."

"I want to go to there to recuperate, do not know if it is convenient or not convenient?" The words were said towards Qi Tian Yu, but the fact was Lou Xi Yan's gentle smile was looking at Zhuo Qing.

He, he, he, he, what was that expressions, Zhuo Qing got goose bumps without any reason. Pushing away his hand, Zhou Qing retreated one step, this man was sometimes gentle, sometimes was secretive, was forever unable to make sense of what he was doing, but this was definitely and absolutely dangerous!

“Oh, you can ah.” Qi Tian Yu stared blankly, he invited him to go before but he did not go. What was going on this year? Could it be that the beauty was accompanying him, so he wanted to enjoy to go bathing like a happily married couple?!

Thinking that Lou Xi Yan could possibly suffer asthma, Zhuo Qing softly said: “Your body’s condition is not suited to soak in a hot spring.”

Lou Xi Yan did not understand and looked towards her, Zhuo Qing barely wanted to start talking when a cotton flower flew by and fell down. Zhuo Qing with a meaningful glance dodged a little, immediately laughed and said: “But, going to see an enchanting scenery place is also good.” Going out to avoid floating cotton’s season to treat his illness would be beneficial.

Zhuo Qing agreed, saw her flickering a moment ago, Lou Xi Yan did not perform an in-depth investigation, said towards Jing Sa: “Jing Sa, you go and prepare.”

“Yes.”

Looking at Jing Sa’s back who just left, the silent Lou Xi Wu suddenly shouted: “I also want to go.”

Lou Xi Yan frowned, barely wanted to start talking, Zhuo Qing’s eyes flashed through, understood clearly and smily said: “Let her accompany me, otherwise it will be boring if I go by myself.”

Zhuo Qing finished talking, Lou Xi Yan looked at Xi Wu one quick glance but did not say anything. Xi Yan was really attached to this Miss Qing Feng, Qi Tian Yu deliberately exploited an opportunity to step forward, fearless of being ridiculed, said: “Miss Qing, it is absolutely unlikely to be bored, there is still me ah!”

Zhuo Qing’s cool eyes were looking from top to bottom, once more from bottom to top to size up Qi Tian Yu, immediately perked up a smile and answered: “I am saying as a woman, I am very sorry, you hide it extremely well, I can not see it coming out for a while.”

Lou Xi Yan laughed heartily. She spoke really unbearable, apparently towards him, she was consideredly lenient.

“What misunderstanding do we have between us?” Qi Tian Yu did not

understand, he was greatly puzzled, when was he this much horrid?!”

“Nothing.” He was always seizing to incite her during the time at Niu Jia village, how it could be a misunderstanding! But Zhuo Qing was unlikely to inform him. Shrugging her shoulder, Zhuo Qing lightly evoked the corner of her mouth, with an ignorant face, answered: “It is just that who can help not stepping on a cockroach when you see one.”

Cockroach...

Once again, inside the Lan Yue’s storied building, there was an explosion of wild laughs....

———

The chariot kept swaying back and forth, Zhuo Qing rapidly fell asleep. She had an incomparable memory to cherish cars now, the same four wheels but the speed was far worst. They went out at noon and it was already dusk now, but still had not arrived! Yawning boringly and half squinting, she was looking at the other side, Lou Xi Wu was lifting open the curtain lightly. Half lying on the window frame and foolishly staring in front. Zhuo Qing had leaned her body towards the direction of that small crack to see, sure enough, as she expected she caught sight of the tall and arrogant’s back at the most front of the horse cart.

“If you like him just inform him, there is no need to be sneaky like this.”

Behind her back, a woman’s voice frightened Lou Xi Wu a bit, she hurriedly putting down the window curtain, turned around to see Zhuo Qing faintly smiled to cast a glance at her. Lou Xi Wu’s complexion was a little embarrassed and felt uncomfortable, lowly shouted: “You... What are you talking nonsense about?!” Was she not sleeping just a moment ago? When did she wake up, Lou Xi Wu secretly cursed to herself to look too ecstatic.

“So, actually, I said something wrong?” Zhuo Qing straighten up her body, lightly stirred up the window curtain, refused to acknowledge Lou Xi Wu. Deliberately propping her cheeks to stare at Jing Sa’s back, with a long sigh said: “Ok, Jing Sa, this ice cube actually is more and more pleasing to the eyes. You do not like him, then I actually do not mind...”

Zhuo Qing had not even finished talking, but her wrist was in pain. Lou Xi Wu had already dragged her. Lou Xi Wu was flustered, she roared and said: “What do you want?! It is best that you remember your own identity, you are my elder brother’s person.”

Ck, ck, ck, this girl’s jealousy was relatively big. Lazily smiling, Zhuo Qing got rid of Lou Xi Wu’s hand, sarcastically smiled and answered: “You do not like him anyway, why do you care about it too much, right?”

“I...” Zhuo Qing provoked with her eyes, Lou Xi Wu clenched her teeth, and answered: “I am warning you, I do like him, he is mine! Do not even think to snatch him!”

Oh... She is about 15-16 years old, the child was indeed precocious now... Zhuo Qing with eyes that were filled with provocation, again indifferently mocked and said: “This is your own wishful thinking, ok. You have not spoken to him, perhaps he does not like you also can not say for sure. You do not even dare to confess to him, what can still be showed off!”

Fists was clenching and not willing to be looked down upon, in a fit of anger Lou Xi Wu shouted: “I will go to speak to him tonight!!”

“Very good! I am waiting to see.” Zhuo Qing craftily smiled. Dealing with this young girl, still had to spur her into action by making negative remarks to be effective. There would be a good show to see tonight.

Zhuo Qing’s mood was delighted, she leaned against the chariot and closed her eyes to rest. She surely did not expect now that there would really be a good show to watch in the evening, but it was just that there was a part that was concerning her.

# Record of Washed Grievances Chapter 27: Hot Spring Garden (Part 2)

This chapter was edited by Din2.

The side of the ears, the wind was blowing the trees leaves, rustling and caressing of the gentle sound of intermittent running water. The atmosphere was also filled with a slightly damp forest trees smell, surrounded by a faint misty water, it was very comfortable. Spring time's plants were sprouting soft green everywhere, Zhuo Qing deeply breathed. Here was indeed a very good place, quiet, elegant small wooden cabin, simple and rustic, small independent courtyard was also decorated rather distinguished, built entirely by wood, did not have any brick roof tile, it was her favorite style.

She heard that the back lane of every small courtyard directly led to the hot spring water. Zhuo Qing's heartbeat quickened, she still had not properly enjoyed the time after arriving at this terrible era. Tearing down the hanging silk curtain on top of the bedside, a piece of long and plain silk white towel was hanging on her neck now. Zhuo Qing laughed and looked at Lou Xi Wu, since she entered the cabin, had not stopped her footsteps, she was walking back and forth.

Was not this only a confession, no need to have this much nervousness, ok?! Zhuo Qing pushed open the door to the rear court, while she was walking, she leisurely laughed and said: "I am going to soak in the hot spring now, wait until I come back. If you have not succeeded with your confession, then it will be my turn lo."

Lou Xi Wu suddenly raised her head, she was staring at Zhuo Qing's back, practically screamed: "You, do not even think about it!!"

Zhuo Qing turned her body, her defiant eyes swept at Lou Xi Wu's red face, arrogantly answered: "Then I will just watch you." Sometimes giving an appropriate motivation was more effective than an encouragement.

Enjoying the killing gaze that was hot and could kill on her back, Zhuo Qing softly perked up her lips, her mood was joyful and she was walking down the path.

The blue stone lane was twisting and turning, to the side was surrounded by short and tall flowers and trees. The ray of the setting sun was warm on the ground, the moist water vapor and the smell of flower could be felt. Zhuo Qing's footsteps were relaxed, she bypassed a few mountain rocks, a hot spring pool appeared in front of her. The hot spring was surrounded by the mountain rocks and bushes, very secluded and private, Zhuo Qing was satisfied.

The pond used rocks to surround all four sides, the pond water was not deep. As if it was a full moon, the moon shaped water pond was divided into two sides. In the middle of the pond, there were small rocks that were used as a divider of the two half moon shaped ponds. Although this was originally a full moon shaped pond, no one would be able to see clearly on the other half side of the pond, very ingenuity. Zhuo Qing took off the thin long skirt, held the white thin silk as a bath towel and wrapped it around her. Using her foot to test the water temperature, it was just right, she looked all around, finally still not taking off the white thin silk towel, she directly walked down to the hot spring.

The steam was warm on the body, a thin mist revolved around the side of the body, surrounded by the fragrance of flowers, the soft chanting of the bird, the setting sun resembled fire. Watching the sunset like this was exactly the best plan, everything was perfect.

Zhuo Qing sighed of relief comfortably, closed her eyes slowly.... "En, really comfortable." A lazy and deep male voice suddenly echoed nearby, it seemed to be very near to the ears.

"Who is that?!" Zhuo Qing swiftly opened her eyes, swept all around panicky.

The gurgling sound of the spring water, ash gray trees, except for her, there was nobody around ah?!

Zhuo Qing frowned, could it be that she was too fatigue so the hallucination appeared?!

Just when Zhuo Qing was puzzling for a length of time, once again an unhurriedly male voice echoed: "If I had known earlier, I would come here for

self-cultivation for several days every year.”

This voice... Zhuo Qing gnashed her teeth: “Lou... Xi... Yan!”

“What a coincidence.” A pretending to be surprised voice come out from the back of the rocks that separated part of the full moon pond.

Lou Xi Yan was unexpectedly soaking in the hot spring on the other side?! When did he come? She actually did not discover it or maybe he already came earlier. That, the time when she changed her clothes a moment ago.... Zhuo Qing’s heart was steaming and impatient, Lou Xi Yan’s clear and cold voice once again echoed: “You do not need to worry, indecent assault peeping and taking advantage of somebody’s precarious position, this kind of thing. I, Lou Xi Yan will never do it.”

Leaning her back against the mountain rocks, Zhuo Qing was thinking that Lou Xi Yan should not be this kind of person. The most important thing was this separation of the mountain rocks was so low so when they were soaking in the pond, they should not see each other from the opposite site. If she stood up to wear her clothes this time, he would be able to see it thoroughly! Anyway, she would still wrap a white silk fabric on her body so it was not naked completely. She had already gone to a Japan’s male-female hot spring in the past, what should she be afraid of now!?

Soaking for a while, only hearing the rushing sound of the water, Lou Xi Yan did not speak again, Zhuo Qing said in a low voice: “Your physical condition is not suited to soak in a hot spring, it is easy for the illness to develop, it is better to go back early.” It would be best for him to leave quickly, she should also get up. She was unable to breathe a little from soaking too long.

For a long time, Zhuo Qing almost thought that he already left. Lou Xi Yan’s muffled voice once again echoed: “What do you know about my illness?”

As it turned out, he was still here ah! Zhuo Qing used a white silk fabric to wrap the upper part of her body, sat up slightly and casually answered: “It should be asthma, one type of respiratory system ailment.” Watching at the situation during the outbreak, it was awfully alike, but she did not have any specific examination so could not be sure.

Lou Xi Yan did not actually soak in the hot spring, he was only sitting on the

shore of the rocks with his feet were soaking in the pond. Hearing Zhuo Qing's words, his hand that was gently pushing aside the water stopped for a moment and consciously asked: "You will treat it?"

"I am not able to, I have only heard of it and know some protective measure." She learned to be a forensic investigator, ok?!

Eyes flashed with a bit of disappointment, but it quickly changed to pondering, Lou Xi Yan continued to gently push aside the water, it produced the sound of rushing water, gently smiled and said: "Qing-er is still indeed experienced and knowledgeable."

Zhuo Qing stared blankly, strangely called out: "What did you call me?!" Qing-er? Am I Bai Su Zhen! (from Madame White Snake – see below comment)

"You do not like it?" Pretending to ponder it over for a moment, Lou Xi Yan softly called: "Then, I will call you... Feng-er, ok."

Feng-er... She was almost mad...

The people from ancient times, if they did not call any name without this "er" character, they could not speak ah! "Call me Qing Feng!" Zhuo Qing was practically flustered and exasperated when she spoke.

Lou Xi Yan was satisfied and perked up to smile, exciting mood, very good! Continue... "Feng-er, did you get used moving from Hao Yue to Qiong Yue? I heard that Feng-er was versed in poetry and proficient in all kinds of folk musical theater, singing and dancing. If you need anything, simply instruct the servant to prepare it."

Zhuo Qing rolled her eyes, she knew nothing about poetry, anything related to folk dance was impassable. Lou Xi Yan clearly did not take seriously her yelling, Zhuo Qing impolitely answered: "People's words can not be trusted, I hear that everyone praises Prime Minister Lou for his cultured and refined, honest, resolute, is a modest nobleman. It seems it resembles more like a rascal now."

Rascal? Lou Xi Yan softly raised his eyebrows, a sly smile on his face, very well, then he would let her see what a real rascal looked like....

Sian's note:

Madame White Snake aka The Legend of The White Snake was a popular legend

in China. It told a story about a white snake spirit aka Bai Su Zhen and her “sister”, green snake aka Xiao Qing. Anyway, I think ZQ was referring to this snake’s sister Qing. As in the ancient period, that sister Qing was probably called Qing-er. If you’re interested to read this story, you can read it from Wikipedia. [https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legend\\_of\\_the\\_White\\_Snake](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legend_of_the_White_Snake). For what it’s worth, the story sounds very interesting but this type of genre is really not my cup of tea as I get confused with the immortals & gods things.

On another note, I thought it was kind of cute that LXY called her “Qing-er” considering she was actually Zhuo Qing and not really Qing Feng so “Qing-er was definitely more appropriate than “Feng-er”. I wonder what LXY will do to ZQ in the next chapter...

# Record of Washed Grievances Chapter 28: Positively Identified

Bonus chapter so please make sure that you read chapter 27 first. I didn't have the heart to make you all wait until Wednesday to read this chapter.

I think this was the longest chapter so far.., I love Lou Xi Yan dearly but he needs to get smack on his face for being "mean" to Zhuo Qing in this chapter... The title kind of gives it away on what will happen in this chapter. Anyone is surprised on the type of scheme our fox PM is doing in this chapter?

This chapter was edited by Din2.

Rascal? Lou Xi Yan softly raised his eyebrows, very well, then he would let her see what a real rascal looked like.

Zhuo Qing was waiting for Lou Xi Yan's retort, unexpectedly it was suddenly dead silence on the other side, could not even hear the sound of water.

"Humph, en..." A repressed melancholy hum suddenly echoed, gently, then a splashing sound.

What is going on? Zhuo Qing was keeping close to the mountain rocks, listening carefully. She came across a gasp for breathing sound and the sound of trickling spring water. Zhuo Qing listened feeling unsure, she hesitated and called: "Lou Xi Yan?"

"I... am all right..." Intermittent answer and almost did not catch what he was saying. But Zhuo Qing could still hear the difficult words came out, this sound could be called as all right?!

"Lou Xi Yan, what is happening to you?!" It was not asthma recurrence, right!?

"Lou Xi Yan! Lou Xi Yan, you should speak ah!" Zhuo Qing shouted a few times, the other side was responding to her with more and more turbid panting sound, around the warm river steams make Zhuo Qing to even more concern. Recalling his appearance from last night's outbreak, Zhuo Qing was anxious, shouted:

“Blue eyes, blue eyes, are you here?!”

“Mo Bai... Mo Bai...” Her yelling sound was the only thing echoing in the hot spring pond. She was waiting for a response but it was never came out, only the sound of heavy breathing could be heard more and more rapid from the opposite side.

“Darn it!” He usually wandered around Lou Xi Yan’s side, at the time that he was truly needed, where did he go!! Supporting herself by holding on the mountain rocks, Zhuo Qing was unable to care much, wanted to go to the shore to put on her clothes to take a look. Walking a few steps, Zhuo Qing squinted her eyes to look for her clothes, where was it?! She definitely took it off near the entrance on the top of that big stone, how was it disappeared!!

“Ah...” A painful shout was heard afterwards, and then water splashing sound... Could it be that he drowned?! Originally he could not breathe and now drowned... Clenching her teeth, Zhuo Qing got up with a wet white silk fabric that was wrapped around her, she was somewhat tiptoeing. Zhuo Qing saw clearly on the opposite side of the pond, Lou Xi Yan’s half body was already soaking in the water, one hand was covering his chest, the other hand was grabbing the shore rocks. Because of breathing difficulty, his shoulder was moving up and down violently, he was almost half lying on the edge of the pond. Zhuo Qing was unable to see his face, but could see his difficult breathing.

“Lou Xi Yan!” Zhuo Qing screamed, Lou Xi Yan did not response. The hand that was clutching the rock a moment ago, it was releasing it slowly now, Zhuo Qing with great alarm, was unable to care about herself, only wrapped a wet white silk fabric, quickly stepped across the hot spring to cross over to the other side of the small stone. Zhuo Qing ran towards Lou Xi Yan.

Holding on Lou Xi Yan’s shoulder, seeing clearly his almost fainted appearance, Zhuo Qing jumped, she was lightly patting his face, anxiously said: “Get up, you get up quickly!”

Zhuo Qing was wet all over, the white silk fabric around her body was already soaked, sticking tightly to her skin, the white silk fabric surrounded the curve of her body and completely exposed it, exquisite and delicate. Lou Xi Yan only looked at it for a glimpse, the blood was already surging... “People, come ah.” He

was extremely heavy, she absolutely could not help him up! What to do!? Lou Xi Yan was continuously facing towards the water, Zhuo Qing could only obliged to jump in the pond. Both hands were holding his chest to push up, Zhuo Qing continued to call for help with a loud voice: "Is there anybody, quickly come ah!"

If Zhuo Qing carefully observed Lou Xi Yan at this time, naturally she could see that his complexion was not pale, rapid breathing but not chaotic. However after seeing his outbreak's appearance yesterday evening, his half body was soaking inside the pond now, Zhuo Qing could only think to pull him up so she did not pay any attention to his flush complexion.

Zhuo Qing was holding him tightly, her hair was wet and wrapping his shoulder, two people were practically sticking together, her chest was soft and stroking him gently from time to time. Lou Xi Yan was breathing and shivering in cold, his body seemed to be stiffed, his breathing was really muddy and chaotic at this time.

Why his body was heating up!! Zhuo Qing was afraid that because he was nervous, he forgot to breathe. On one hand, she was striving to drag him to climb ashore, on the other hand she was pacifying and saying: "Lou Xi Yan, you do not need to be nervous, keep breathing."

Heavens! She was stroking him gently again, he could not breathe very soon!!

"Is there anyone...!"

Zhuo Qing's half body was in the lukewarm spring water, continuously exerting her strength to drag and pull Lou Xi Yan up. Her face and neck were already sweating, right side of her skin also started to redden slightly. Lou Xi Yan's eyes were shimmering, panting slightly while bowing his head, slightly narrowed eyes were fixed on the exquisite skin, after the red scar, like visible veins on the skin slowly appeared, more and more obvious, faintly discernible like a faint character that was appearing... Still could not see clearly what the character was, Lou Xi Yan's sharp sense detected that the plants were swaying, an extremely quick blue shadow leapt to come from the side. Lou Xi Yan's expression was dark, one hand was encircling Zhuo Qing's waist, the other hand was exerting to lift and release a purple cloak from the side, the cloak scattered and fell down, just in time to cover Zhuo Qing's exquisite curve and chest that showed a distinct

character more and more.

With great effort, Zhuo Qing pushed Lou Xi Yan to ashore, Lou Xi Yan's heavy body was suddenly able to be pushed to ashore by her. Two people were lying on their stomachs together at the shore on the gravel stones, although their feet were still inside the water, more than half of their bodies finally came out. Zhuo Qing felt warm on her body, a dark purple cloak fell on her body.

Zhuo Qing was wondering how a cloak fell down on her body, when the sound of the light footsteps already echoed behind her, Zhuo Qing was astonished and turned around to look.

Seeing clearly the man's appearance, Zhuo Qing shouted: "It is you?!" That person who caused her injury "Qian Jing"! (again ZQ was using the wrong characters of this guy's name, the explanation was in Chapter 17). Was he the one who gave her the cloak?!

Seeing clearly Zhuo Qing's face, Qian Jing was also rashly said: "It is you?!" He heard somebody was screaming a moment ago, just came over to take a look. As it turned out, it was her! Behind her an icy gaze was following him from the beginning, he appeared to keep staring at him. Qian Jing squinted his eyes to look, one handsome profile of a man who was looking at him coldly, long and narrow eyes were shining a deep and cold ray. Qian Jing lightly raised his eyebrows, it appeared that he disturbed other people's happy occasion. Inside the hot spring pond, the two were soaking wet and holding each other, this was really romantic.... Qian Jing chuckled, smiled and said: "Really romantic ah!"

Demon! Qian Jing started talking ridiculous words, Zhuo Qing glared at him and scolded: "What nonsense!! His illness relapsed, you, hurry up to come over and help."

His illness relapsed?? He saw that pervert mind appeared! Both hands were on the chest, he was casting a glance at the man who partially collapsed on the ground, Qian Jing answered: "How do you want me to help?"

"What else can you help?! Help to pick him up."

Pick him up? This man's expression was clear and bright, looking at him a moment ago, his eyes were flashing a shady look when looking at her, where the serious illness' appearance came from, simply wanted to take advantage of her!!

Qian Jing was staring at the half motionless' Lou Xi Yan, Zhuo Qing could not stand it and shouted: "You, hurry up ah!"

Waving one hand, the corner of his mouth raised a touch of malicious laughter, Qian Jing answered: "You, get out of the way, do not be a hindrance."

Zhuo Qing flung aside and curled her mouth, but did not say anything, tightly wrapped the cloak, she retreated to one side, she did not have any strength anyway.

Help him up, right, he would help him up right away.... Qian Jing stretched out, tightly clamped down on Lou Xi Yan's arm, he originally planned to use power to throw him to climb ashore. However just when Qian Jing was about to use force, the seemingly weak Lou Xi Yan suddenly turned his hand over to buckle his wrist. His power was great, it went against Qian Jing's expectation, he looked up to look, just in time when that pair of deep eyes clashed.

Lou Xi Yan borrowed Qian Jing's strength to leap backward, two people finally retreated to the shore together. Between these pulling and dragging, the two men were also wrestling a contest with the eyes, surging up violently like an undercurrent. It was a pity that Zhuo Qing was unable to see it, she only saw that Lou Xi Yan was 'helped' to the shore by Qian Jing.

Squatting at Lou Xi Yan's side, Zhuo Qing asked: "How are you?"

Feeling touched, Lou Xi Yan lightly shook his head.

Qian Jing secretly cursed, this man could really pretend, at the time he buckled his wrist, indeed his face was not red nor panting for air ah, Lou Xi Yan was drenched all over. Zhuo Qing turned her head to look towards the side at the cool's eyes of Qian Jing, suddenly said in a low voice: "Take off your clothes!"

Take off... Qian Jing retreated one step afterwards, lowly asked: "Why do I have to undress?!"

Zhuo Qing was impatient and urgently said: "Why do you talk so many nonsenses, hurry up!"

Seeing that she was only draped on a purple cloak and the cloak was already splashed with water, stuck lightly on her body, her long hair was still dripping water. Half kneeling on the ground, her silhouette looked so weak and thin, did

not know why his heart was soft, Qian Jing still took off the outside garment and threw it to give to Zhuo Qing.

Taking his clothes, Zhuo Qing however did not put it on her own body, rather draped it on Lou Xi Yan's body. The night scene at the hot spring pond was gradually dense, the wind was slowly getting stronger, if he caught a cold, it would definitely lead to a more severe respiratory illness. Zhuo Qing was entirely thinking from a doctor's point of view about this issue, so her thought of giving the clothes to Lou Xi Yan was merely normal. Qian Jing, however, did not understand Zhuo Qing's way of thinking, only thought that she was an idiot! She did not have clothes on her own body, but still gave the clothes to that man who clearly harbored a malicious intention!! He was indeed insane to take off his clothes to give it to her!!

Assisting Lou Xi Yan to drape over the clothes properly, Zhuo Qing was finally relaxed and asked: "Are you a little better?!"

Not only Qian Jing was annoyed because of Zhuo Qing's action, Lou Xi Yan also did not expect that she would drape the clothes on his own body. Somewhere in his heart felt a peculiar, warm feeling, Lou Xi Yan was absent-minded for a moment, until his ears heard Zhuo Qing's low voice to inquire, Lou Xi Yan recovered, softly answered: "En."

"I will go to call for someone." Zhuo Qing got up, but two big hands gripped her wrist.

"Put on the clothes properly first." Attentively helping her to put on the cloak properly, Lou Xi Yan lightly released his hands.

Zhuo Qing felt somewhat stupid, honestly speaking, Lou Xi Yan's gentle appearance, could really make people's heart to palpitate, but... his hateful appearance would also equally make blood to move violently! Grabbing the cloak, Zhuo Qing hurriedly got up, went along the lane and hurriedly ran to go out.

After Zhuo Qing left, the hot spring pond sank into a strange and serene place... For a very long time, Qian Jing phoenix's eyes slightly narrowed, disdainfully snorted and said: "You use this kind of method to cheat a woman, do you not think that you are awfully despicable?" Looking at him who looked like a

good citizen type of person, so actually, there was a person who was a shameless and despicable believer like him.

With a smiling expression on the face as before, but did not feel well-intentioned, Lou Xi Yan cold voice sneered and said: "I was having fun with Madam and there was no need for an outsider to come and care about it!" It was best that he did not see anything a moment ago, otherwise... Madam?! That ugly woman was his Madam?! Qian Jing suddenly thought of himself like a big folly! Why did he want to care about her matter!! Even if she was cheated by whomever, what was the relationship with him?! He was developing what kind of craziness, or what kind of bad luck!! Mentally grew more and more uncomfortable, while facing Lou Xi Yan's cold look, he also glared back at him rudely.

Hazy night scene, charming misty spring water, one stood and one crouched, one icily arrogant and one fidgety, two men who were hostile to each other...

Sian's notes:

Again, I'd like to point out how good this author was when she was thinking about the whole plots of all her three books related to the Qing sisters. Some of us that have read book 3 (QF's story) knew that LXY found out that Zhuo Qing was actually Qing Ling and not Qing Feng after the palace banquet when the Emperor also met Zhuo Qing for the first time. So he did not find out about the mix up here at the Hot Spring Garden. Here in this chapter, LXY didn't actually see the character "Feng" on her chest but it was only that glowing tattoo on that area. Bravo to the author!!!

## Record of Washed Grievances Chapter 29: Qian Jing

Hmmm... Did our dear and sly PM eat vinegar in this chapter? (Chinese's saying for being jealous). Hehehe... This was one my favorite chapters. I couldn't stop laughing reading it. I just love the bantering between ZQ & QJ. Awesome!! By the way, we have reached a quarter of the novel at this point.

This chapter was edited by Din2.

### Hot Spring Garden (Zheng Hall)

Charming and passionate moonlight, hot blowing wind night, refreshing fragrance of flowers, misty green grass, sound of running water, curl of smoke, tea's fragrance was permeating the inside of Zheng hall, brightly lit candle. Everything was very beautiful, but the atmosphere was somewhat anxious, awkward and strange.... Lou Xi Yan and Zhuo Qing already changed the wet clothings. Lou Xi Yan sat at the guest's seat, he was holding a cup of green tea. The corner of his mouth was still lightly raised, slightly narrowed his eyes to stare at the floating and sinking tea leaves on his hand. He kept silent, but was unable to see if he was happy or angry. Qian Jing was half-leaning to the patio, hand was flipping a thin like cicada wing's throwing knife, felt boring with impatience face. Mo Bai stood next to Lou Xi Yan, a pair of blue eyes took precaution to stare at Qian Jing's sharp blade on his hand. Zhuo Qing was sitting at the furthest seat on the side, one hand was holding a pastry and the other hand was holding green tea. She was eating eagerly and drinking to enjoy herself quietly, completely ignoring a group of men who were competing secretly in the room.

Qi Tian Yu swallowed his saliva, looked at this, once again looked at that, was thinking that it would be more awkward if he did not say anything. In any case, he was the host, softly coughing, Qi Tian Yu got up to walk in the middle of Zheng hall. Looking towards Lou Xi Yan, he laughed and said: "This is Lou Xi Yan." Inconveniently and straightforwardly saying Xi Yan's status, Qi Tian Yu hesitated in a moment, then continued to say: "He is... my good friend."

Looking towards Qian Jing, Qi Tian Yu thought, finally vaguely said: "This is

Qian Jing, also my good friend.”

Lou Xi Yan slightly raised his head, indifferently smiled and deeply said: “Many thanks, to Qian Gongzi (an honorific call for a noble) to come to help just a moment ago.”

He is Lou Xi Yan?! That man who was grace, sensitive to people’s need, well-known in the six countries!? Qian Jing secretly cursed, this man was also too fake, he was exactly this kind of face at the hot spring a moment ago!! Skimpily cupping his hands to greet, Qian Jing mockingly said: “I do not deserve your praise! Prime Minister Lou is really not the same person as his famous reputation!” That ugly woman was following after him, cheated to death, also did not know how she herself died!

Eh... What hatred did the two of them have?! Qi Tian Yu had no idea what was going on, but also was not stupid enough to immediately ask, hurriedly pointed toward the side, to Zhuo Qing who was unconsciously and happily eating, he smiled and said: “This is Miss Qing Feng from Hao Yue’s Country.”

“One of the three pretty women of the Qing Family?” Qian Jing suddenly straightened up, he was staring at Zhuo Qing tenaciously, for a good moment, with a desperate face, sighed and said: “Ck, ck, rumor can not really be trusted, eh, no, absolutely can not be trusted...” He listened to countless people that said how the three Qing’s sisters were graceful, elegant and outstanding beauties, what refine and outstanding, what gentle and graceful, he once thought to go to Hao Yue to take a glimpse at the beautiful face... Now it seemed... Fortunately, he did not go!

Softly putting one hand on his back, the sharp blade on his hand was already hidden somewhere, Qian Jing touched his nose and said: “I would better leave.” Otherwise he did not know what type of person would appear to come out? Jiang Hu is dangerous ah, ah, ah... Qian Jing strode over to go out, Qi Tian Yu anxiously became aware and chased: “Hold on! Brother Qian do not urgently leave ah! We have not discussed about that one matter properly yet, correct?”

Qian Jing stopped, waved his hand, impatiently answered: “Ok, ok, you look for me to manage the matter, I will manage it well. As for the price, I will calculate exactly according to the professional price, I will not extort you.”

After considering it also, Qi Tian Yu nodded: "That is also ok!"

Tian Yu was rarely in such a hurry, Lou Xi Yan's brows gently knitted and asked: "Tian Yu, what difficult matter that you have not told me? Strictly speaking, I will not come to disturb you."

"No, no, Xi Yan, actually it was nothing major!" Looking at Lou Xi Yan who got up, Qi Tian Yu was also anxious, afraid that he misunderstood what the urgent matter was. Qi Tian Yu immediately said: "Well, the matter was like this, an unknown person came out of nowhere to my family's grand casino to gamble for three days, he lost more than ten thousand liang, he firmly spoke an allegation that the casino cheated, wanted me to give back the money to him. This was an impossible matter, a trouble afterwards, he unexpectedly sneaked into the family's home, it was reckoned that he wanted to kidnap Tian Xin to threaten me. The conclusion was that he kidnaped Tian Xin's personal maid, Ru-er. It had been 2 days, Tian Xin was very noisy with me everyday, making the whole family could not feel peaceful, I just wanted to seek Brother Qian to help me find that kidnapper, save Ru-er and save me the trouble from Tian Xin."

There was such a thing? Lou Xi Yan knitted his eyebrows and asked: "Did you report the case to the authorities?"

"I did report it, your health is not good, you also hold an important position with many different kind of affairs, I will not trouble you in this sort of trivial matter." Originally, he wanted to say to Xi Yan, that he was still considering if he wanted to tell him about this when his chronic illness recurred once again, how could he trouble him then!

"Did the government office have any news?" He estimated that there was not any, otherwise Tian Yu would not find someone for help.

Sure enough, Qi Tian Yu answered fidgety: "There was not any news at all."

Originally, Qian Jing wanted to leave but hearing this here, he groaned disparagingly and answered proudly: "If it is not because of the authorities who are not able to accomplish this, otherwise what are you doing still looking for me."

Lou Xi Yan lightly raised his eyebrows, looked at the man who was facing the outside door. The Qi Family owned and managed the casino, even at the capital,

they had to request an assistance from somebody, in the end, what kind of person? Furthermore, he and Qing Feng seemed to be old friends.... Since Qian Jing seemed to not refrain from his own identity, Xi Yan had also an interesting appearance. Qi Tian Yu brightly smiled and said: “Brother Qian is the most famous bounty hunter in Qiong Yue, Brother Qian is able to arrest and bring justice to a lot of people who can not be arrested by the authorities. He seeks to arrest the murderer in this aspect, is really awesome.”

Bounty hunter! Qiong Yue definitely had a lot of bounty hunters, however the ones who could receive famous reputation’s praises, there were only two men, ‘Ye Mei’ (Night Charm), and ‘Ao Tian’ (Rambling Sky). He had not heard Qian Jing, or he was, ‘Ye Mei’ or ‘Ao Tian’.

Lou Xi Yan was reckoning secretly, one clear sound of a woman’s voice that was not light nor heavy sneered: “Indeed very awesome, to arrest a criminal who is also able to let him run away, awesome ah!” Zhuo Qing patted her hands to get off of the crumbs of pastries, and with disapproval look on her face.

The original proud face was motionless all of a sudden, glaring at Zhuo Qing, Qian Jing angrily said: “Woman, you do not need to be too arrogant, pay back the money!”

Zhuo Qing was laughing: “You are indeed Qian (money) Jing (extremely-fine), want money like crazy, when do I owe you money. Alzheimer’s disease flares up?”

What Alzheimer’s disease?! But it was not a good thing, Qian Jing stepped across to go inside the living room again, casted sidelong glances at Lou Xi Yan, and was scolding Zhuo Qing again: “You were wounded last time, I gave you the medicine that was valued at 50 liang!! 50 liang!! Return the medicine money, you are the Prime Minister’s woman, surely can afford 50 liang!”

“When did I become his....” Woman!!

Zhuo Qing had not yet finished talking, Lou Xi Yan’s cold voice unhurriedly echoed: “Many thanks to Qian Gongzi who decided to help at that time, these silvers should equal to the medicine fee.”

Lou Xi Yan’s voice dropped just now, Mo Bai was already taking a stack of banknotes and walking in front of Qian Jing. Qian Jing looked up and looked, oh

wow, very big style in spending money, this stack had at least 200 liang!

Qian Jing had not yet reached out to accept it, one fair hand already took the stack of banknotes from Mo Bai's hand and ran!

There was money but no place to spend it, would be better to just give it to her, why wasted it! Zhuo Qing was in front of Qian Jing, took the money, and tucked it inside her sleeve, grimly laughed and said: "You dare to mention the injury's matter to me, then I will give you the calculation properly."

Lightly raising her head, the scar from the knife on her neck was faintly discernible, Zhuo Qing slowly and clearly said: "You arrested the criminal and hurt me, the wound still hurt up until now, my physical and psychological's harms that were caused by this injury were tremendous, furthermore it might leave behind some residual effects, thus you ought to pay me money for medical fees for any other injury that would appear later on. Lost on income fees, nourishment fees, mental loss fees, *etc.* In retrospect, considering that you had consciousness to help, I just charged you 100 liang, ok. You could deduct the so called medicine money, then you gave me 50 liang, I would not be arguing with you anymore."

Standing in front of Qian Jing, Zhuo Qing stretched out her hand agilely, spit out a few words: "50 liang! Pay back... the money!"

Medical fees? Lost of income fees? Nourishment fees? Mental loss fees?? Qian Jing was a little stupid, but hearing 50 liang, he sobered up immediately and shouted: "50 liang, you extorted money ah."

Zhuo Qing leisurely answered: "One lousy pill that you did not know where it came from, you wanted 50 liang, who was extorting money after all?"

"What lousy pill, that was indeed a medicine from that strange Doctor Xi Mu!! 50 liang was cheap for you!" As expected, this woman was speaking unclear rational!! Waving his hand irritably, Qian Jing firmly answered: "Forget about it, forget about it, I am too lazy dealing with this type of childish ignorant woman's long winded talk."

Childish ignorant woman?! Very good, Zhuo Qing lightly raised the corner of her mouth, and raised her head to plaster a fake smiling expression, sneery said: "Well, even if that lousy pill of yours is valued at 50 liang, then you also owe me

50 liang, return the money!”

“You!!” He already did not want to argue with her, she was still unwilling to spare him!! Qian Jing opened his eyes widely, the angry voice was somewhat trembling: “Regard me to have bad luck!! Woman, do not let me see you again!!” Next time she was looking for him, even if she would kneel to request him, he would not seek her!!

Groaning lowly, Qian Jing did not answer and rushed out of the living room. Zhuo Qing’s hands were on her chest, looking at the desolate and fleeing view of his back, arrogantly laughed and said: “Remember to return the money next time!”

The devil sound winded on his ears, Qian Jing lowly cursed, never next time, absolutely never!! He would not want to see this ugly woman anymore!

Looking at Zhuo Qing’s back who was laughing heartily, Lou Xi Yan’s expression was gloomy. What was the relationship between her and Qian Jing after all, in front of him, even though she was arrogant, arguing sharply, but yet having less of the normal calm, arrogant and guarded, like she was not approachable.... Was it Qian Jing, he, would remember...

## Record of Washed Grievances Chapter 30: The Little Girl's Hurt Feeling

Rethinking over about Jing Sa's age, I think he's probably in the early 20s or maybe even in his late teen. According to ZQ's estimation in the previous chapter, LXW is about 15-16 years old so JS can't be too much older than her.

This chapter was edited by Din2.

"Go away, I do not want to eat!"

After the shrieking sound, there was a sound of a falling bowl of dish.

The young servant girl who delivered the food was standing at the side shivering not knowing what to do. Zhuo Qing waved her hand towards her to let her leave. Sweeping a quick look at a completely messy floor, splashing food on the cabin. Zhuo Qing's hands were on her chest, coldly answered: "If you want to starve yourselves to death to let your Jing gege to have a guilty conscience and feel sorry for you, then you still need to work a little harder, do not merely not eating food, the best way is you must also not drinking water, persevere for 5-6 days, then you will not be far away from being dead."

Lou Xi Wu smashed a pile of things, while gasping for air, she was also scolding: "You, this bad woman, even if there is no me, he will also not like you!"

Not bad, not eating for one day, she still had strength to scold people! Zhuo Qing avoided the wreckage on the floor and sat down on the chair at the side, dismissively replied: "In the eyes of other people, your darling is merely a grass, nothing more. You are the Lou's family daughter, he dares to reject you and gives you an embarrassment. You can give him a hard time and make him suffer terribly. You are the owner and he is the servant. You want to do what just do it, what is the point to get angry like this!"

"That is enough, enough!!" Lou Xi Wu was hysterical and continued to cry and shrieked: "What owner ah, what servant ah. I have never regarded him as a servant!! He just wants to use this as an excuse to avoid me!"

Zhuo Qing used hands to lightly press her ears, was unable to endure the shrieking sound and answered: “Maybe it is because of a status that he does not dare to accept you. You can test his sincerity towards you ah! You are blindly barking out a sound like this for what!!”

“How do I test?” Lou Xi Wu did not shout. She was staring at Zhuo Qing with swollen eyes as big as walnuts due to crying all night.

Zhuo Qing turned and rolled her eyes, the entire water pipe, the tears were released way too easily, ok! Thinking, Zhuo Qing casually answered: “Usually observe him more, whether or not he is nervous about you, care about you, especially when you are in danger or the time when you have a headache and fever, in the midst of the calamity, the truth will appear.”

Lou Xi Wu finished listening, her head dropped down, dispiritedly whispered: “Even knowing that he likes me can also do what, he is a big stone (stubborn), he will determine that his status does not fit with me. No matter how hard I work, he will not admit that he likes me!”

This was also correct, according to her very few knowledges about Jing Sa, she could also see that. He was absolutely a block latrine stone, both ruthless and firm! Thinking, Zhuo Qing indifferently smiled and said: “When necessary, doing ‘what is done is done’ is also possible.” (This is an idiom 生米煮成熟饭-sheng mi zhu cheng shu fan. The literal meaning is the uncooked rice is completely cooked. ZQ was implying if necessary LXW should ‘go’ for it to ‘force’ Jing Sa to accept her).

Uncooked rice.... Lou Xi Wu’s face blushed all of a sudden, she was red from neck to forehead, a pair of eyes were in a daze staring at Zhuo Qing. It seemed that she was the same as a freak, with a clever tongue that could also strike a knot: “You, you, what nonsense did you say ah! Nonsense, nonsense!! Simply... Simply shameless!!”

This was called shameless? She thought that her own wording was already refined enough. Lou Xi Wu’s blushing face was soon burning up, hating that she was unable to glare her eyes to come out of the holes. Zhuo Qing simply got up to withdraw to the outside door, answered unbearably: “Fine, I am shameless, then you cry slowly, ok! Remember not to drink water, you can starve yourselves

to death and the whole world will be at peace!”

“Qing Feng, you, get lost!” A ‘bang’ sound, one porcelain cup was thrown towards Zhuo Qing, it broke into pieces on the ground. Fortunately, she ducked out of the way quickly, otherwise even if there was no blood, but the skin would still be broken.

This was a so-called wealthy daughter, ok. The young lady’s bad temper was actually not small. Zhuo Qing shook her head, decided to look for Qi Tian Yu to request a change of the courtyard. She dared not to provoke and had better avoided her.

Walking and stopping to go around the circle, she discovered just now, this hot spring garden was quite big, exquisite and elegant, especially this courtyard in front of her eyes, the babbling sound of running water, clusters of pale pink azaleas, looked delicate, supple and sentimental. Feeling shy, Zhuo Qing narrowed her eyes for a moment, it seemed that it was Lou Xi Yan’s courtyard up front, right, did not know whether or not his asthma was better.

Zhuo Qing was still thinking, Lou Xi Yan’s clear, raw and soft voice echoed from behind: “You came.”

She was just thinking about him, he appeared right away. Zhuo Qing was somewhat embarrassed, smily said: “Did your health a little bit better?”

“Much better.” Under the warm sun, Lou Xi Yan was walking slowly, his long gown was flustering, eyes were smiling, somewhat feeling lazy, walking to Zhuo Qing. Lou Xi Yan lightly smiled and asked: “Did you come to look for me for some matter?”

Was there some matter? Calculating, Zhuo Qing nodded and said;”: “I do not want to rush you, but I want to see my sisters as soon as possible. I.... really miss her.” She and Gu Yun saw that one strange bagua board (the eight divination trigrams) together and fainted afterwards, it was reasonable to say that, she surely also came to this world. They were already separated for half a month, she really wanted to confirm quickly, whether or not there was Yun within the Qing’s sisters. If there was not, how would she look for her? They had already changed their appearances, undoubtedly, it would be like finding a needle in the haystack!!

Although he had not seen it clearly whether or not there was a letter ‘Feng’ on her chest yesterday, but Lou Xi Yan’s heart already convinced that she was exactly Qing Feng. After all, not too many people in this world had a tattoo that would appear because of the raising of her body temperature. Recalling her urgent appearance to rescue and give him medical treatment yesterday, Lou Xi Yan’s heart was warm, with a deep sound answered: “I will think of a way, I and General Su are responsible for the civil and military positions. We normally do not have much contacts, I will find a way to let you meet with your elder sister first, ok.”

“Fine.” Seeing one was ok, right, maybe that elder sister was exactly Yun, could not say it for sure. Suddenly recalling Qiong Yue’s Emperor, that pair of eyes that were similar like eagle eyes, Zhuo Qing was somewhat anxious. That emperor was absolutely not a person who could be provoked, Yun was originally a short temper person, absolutely a fiery lady.... Zhuo Qing’s heart was reckoning secretly and Lou Xi Yan did not disturb her. She wore a light yellow skirt today, her long hair was still carelessly knotted in a braid. Standing quietly in the middle of the azalea flowers, lightly and elegantly knitting her brows, eyebrows were a little cold, a trace of melancholy. This kind of her was unexpectedly and exceptionally beautiful, she had nothing to do on this beautiful looks, temperament dictated.

Recovering and feeling that Lou Xi Yan’s gaze heated up excessively, the two people were standing face to face, Zhuo Qing was somewhat embarrassed. Recalling that the room still had the angry Lou Xi Wu, Zhuo Qing asked: “How did the young Jing Sa become the Prime Minister manor’s head housekeeper, did he follow you since he was young?”

Lou Xi Yan stared blankly, did not understand why she suddenly asked about Jing Sa, but nevertheless lightly smiled and answered: “Yes, originally his father was our family’s housekeeper.”

So, actually, it was like this, in other words, Lou Xi Wu and Jing Sa might be childhood sweethearts?! (The original characters were 青梅竹马 – qing mei zhu ma. The literal translation was green plums and bamboo horse. It could also be translated that both LXW & JS grew up together). In that case, did Lou Xi Yan know that Lou Xi Wu was secretly in love with Jing Sa, maybe Jing Sa also liked

Lou Xi Wu? Somewhat curious, she had nothing to do anyway, Zhuo Qing smiled and said: “Then, do you know whether or not he has a sweetheart?”

Lou Xi Yan’s heart flashed through an annoying thought, still smiled, intonation slightly raised: “Is Feng-er interested in him?”

Zhuo Qing’s brows wrinkled again, with also a cold voice: “We are just talking over, can you not call me Feng-er!”

Lou Xi Yan lowly smiled, with a puzzle look, answered: “You do not like this name? I think it sounds very pleasant to hear.”

I think it sounds very unpleasant to hear!! Zhuo Qing was just about to discuss seriously and thoroughly about this important relationship issue with Lou Xi Yan, Jing Sa’s strong dark figure suddenly appeared inside the courtyard, with an unusual and urgent voice said: “Master.”

“Miss left a letter and ran away.” Even though he strived to cover up, Lou Xi Yan and Zhuo Qing could see what his frenetic eyes’ could not conceal.

No way! Zhuo Qing was flabbergasted, and asked: “Left a letter and ran away? What did she write?”

Jing Sa’s complexion was cold, ultimately taking out a small piece of paper from his sleeve. Zhuo Qing hurriedly took the piece of paper, a few written characters on the top.... I am gone, you do not want to see me, just no need to be afraid that I will bother you, I will not bother you anymore in the future!

Maygod! (I thought it was funny that the author really used that word. Not sure if she intentionally misspelled it though). She was only casually saying something a moment ago, she would not really put herself in the middle of any dangerous situation, made Jing Sa anxious and nervous about her, right!! What did this girl want!

Slipping the piece of paper to Lou Xi Yan, Zhuo Qing sighed and said: “Your younger sister is a strong child, we should better try to find her separately, ok.” Otherwise she did not know what matter would come out.

Lou Xi Yan only swept a glance at the piece of paper that was on his hand, then just grabbed it with his hand, did not have any anxious expression on his face, serenely said towards Zhuo Qing: “You stay at the hot spring garden to try to

find her, Xi Wu may simply hide to scare us, I and Tian Yu will arrange people to try to find her in the vicinity.”

Looking at Jing Sa’s nervous appearance, he absolutely already tried to find her in this residence once, a moment ago before coming to report. Lou Xi Wu could not still be inside the hot spring garden. Zhuo Qing knew that Lou Xi Yan did not want her to go out, she just took advantage and answered: “Good, you all go, ok.”

Lou Xi Yan took Jing Sa along and departed hurriedly, Zhuo Qing lowered her eyebrows to think deeply, where would Lou Xi Wu go after all?!

# Record of Washed Grievances Chapter 31: So Bad Luck (Part 1)

This chapter was missing from 19lou's version so I used bestory's version in doing this translation. Another cliff hanger in this chapter...

This chapter was edited by Din2.

As the night fell, the moon was on the top of the tip of a tree branch, already haishi time (between 9-11 pm), the inside of the Zheng hall was still brightly lit. Lou Xi Yan sat at the owner's seat, his forefinger was tapping the wood chair lightly, kept tapping, the voice was not loud, but inside the quiet Zheng hall, it seemed exceptionally clear. Lou Xi Wu slightly raised her head, secretly aimed a glance at Lou Xi Yan. Elder brother did not say anything and also did not scold her. She also could not see his facial expression whether he was happy or angry. It rained heavily a moment ago, so she was all wet from her head to her legs. She was cold and hungry at the moment, shivering with cold. But Lou Xi Wu was still well-behaved and lowered her head, did not even dare to say one word.

She left a letter and ran away at that time, it was also an impulsive moment, she regretted it afterwards, but could not let herself to comeback, right. She guessed that Jing Sa and elder brother would try to find her very quickly, it was a proven fact that it was indeed very quickly. But if she had known earlier that this wretched day would pour down this much rain, elder brother would be liked this frightening person now, she would not go out even if she died....

"Mo Bai." Lou Xi Yan's muffled voice suddenly echoed, frightening Lou Xi Wu a little, stealthily aiming once again, discovering that Lou Xi Yan simply did not look at her, only quietly saying something at Mo Bai who was on his side: "Go inform them, Tian Yu and Qing Feng, we have found Xi Wu. Let them look no further."

"Yes." Mo Bai walked pass by Jing Sa's side for a moment, gave him the 'keep calm, do not get excited' expression, then hurriedly went out.

Looking at Lou Xi Wu who was trembling like dead leaves in the wind, Jing Sa

originally wanted to say something, but because of Mo Bai's expression, he swallowed it at the end.

Zheng hall was suffocatingly quiet once again, half a shichen later (an hour), Lou Xi Wu really could not stand it, if he wanted to hit or wanted to scold, in all cases, she still had to listen soon afterwards, right! She could not receive this kind of torture anymore, lifting her head, Lou Xi Wu started talking: "Elder brother...."

Unfortunately, once she spoke this one word, Lou Xi Yan suddenly and faintly raised his voice to shout: "Somebody comes. Help Miss to return to her room to rest, without my order, she is not allowed to go out of the door one step!"

The imperial bodyguard who was outside the door came in, standing behind Lou Xi Wu, looking face to face one glance, still advancing to support Lou Xi Wu to walk out.

"Elder brother!! You can not be like this shutting me up?!" Lou Xi Wu recovered and argued noisily and loudly. It was a pity, from start to finish, Lou Xi Yan did not even face her directly nor did he look at her one glance.

Lou Xi Yan's face was undisturbed from beginning to end, did not even have the slightest anger in appearance. Jing Sa, nevertheless already knew too well, his anger was not light. Jing Sa advanced one step, heavily said: "Master, this matter.... was entirely because of me as well, not related to Miss. Please punish this subordinate...."

Lou Xi Yan lightly raised his hand, preventing him from saying anything, faintly answered: "My own sense of propriety, you should also withdraw and rest, ok."

"Yes." Master did not want to listen to his words, Jing Sa's heart sank down, could only bow and leave.

Jing Sa rigidly turned around to leave, even his back entirely revealed stubborn and chilly personalities. Lou Xi Yan helplessly shook his head, Xi Wu liked Jing Sa, he already knew it. Jing Sa was also not totally uninterested towards this girl, he really was not a pedantic person. If they really had an affinity with each other, could marry each other, it was also a wonderful thing. Dealing with Jing Sa's tough character, who held the master and servant's belief, even if he personally gave them approval, Jing Sa would also not agree, in order to prevent Jing Sa's

difficulty, this matter was treated as if he did not see it all along. Contrarily, Xi Wu was this impetuous, not sure if her constant perseverance would yield any success. (This was an idiom 水滴石穿-shui di shi chuan, literally means dripping water penetrates the stone). He was not immune with this problem.

Lightly massaging his temple, Lou Xi Yan got up, ready to return to his room, nevertheless, he saw Mo Bai hurriedly came, footsteps looked somewhat urgent, this premonition of indescribable bad feeling raised up, without waiting until Mo Bai opened his mouth, Lou Xi Yan asked: “What happened?”

“Qing Feng is missing.”

Missing?! Lou Xi Yan raised his head, eyes slipped off a trace of great waves.

Lou Xi Yan did not need to ask, Mo Bai already answered: “I have searched this entire hot spring garden, can not find her shadow. All of the people in the manor went out to try to find Miss Xi Wu this afternoon, nobody knew how she went missing.”

Could it be that she run away? Extremely impossible, she could not be that stupid. If she wanted to run away, she could find other opportunity, should not choose this desolate valley. Moreover, how could she run away, it would be more difficult to see her sisters. Perhaps, she was kidnapped?! Thinking here, Lou Xi Yan’s complexion was dark, his voice seemed somewhat urgent: “Summon all the bodyguards to come over and rummage through this great mountain to search for her.”

“Yes.” Mo Bai’s brows unconsciously knitted slightly. This Qing Feng, apparently could already affect Master’s state of mind.

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She is a pig!

She is merely an idiot!

She is merely an extremely stupid pig!

She is merely an extremely and incurably stupid pig!

Why did she want to care about Lou Xi Wu’s fate, why did she not leisurely wait for the news in the small garden, why did she want to look for her at all of

the surrounding around the small garden when she did not have to, why did the heaven suddenly send a torrential rain, why did she lose her way?! Right, she lost the way, the first time in her life that she lost the way, she who had this super ability to remember, could lose the way unexpectedly!! @#\$%.....

Zhuo Qing was scolding herself in her heart over and over again, footsteps nevertheless did not dare to stop a tiny bit. The rain fog was curling up after the heavy rain in the mountain, one side was completely covered by the uneven height of the bushes, all four sides were surrounded by a dense mass, there was no visibility at all. She could only fumble to move forwards, she should still be on the hill of the hot spring garden, and thus meeting large wild animals would be very unlikely. There was a hot spring here, certainly would have running water, so long as she found running water, she could go out.

The night wind was chilly, she was cold and hungry, did not know how long she had been walking in the dark. Finally, there was a faint flicker of flame in a distance place, Zhuo Qing almost wanted to shriek! If there was fire surely there would be someone!! Zhuo Qing sped up her footsteps, she walked over towards the square shaped origin of the fire quickly.

Getting closer, just when Zhuo Qing was thinking and hoping, a loud roar shook her and she did not even dare to move: “You shut up, if you cry, I will slaughter you!”

Zhuo Qing was rigid all over, heaven..... She had so many bad luck ah, with great difficulty she saw hope, in the end it was desperation.... Zhuo Qing went away from the flame and passed on the nearby cave, fearing to disturb the people inside. Zhuo Qing took a deep breath, after calming herself, she raised her legs to use the lightest steps to go back.

Only stepping out a few steps, that coarse and violent voice of a man was swearing while he talked: “Your, Qi Family, he was good for nothing, opened a casino and extorted Laozi’s money, must not think that Laozi could be easily bullied, also did not ask around about what kind of person Yeye was! (He called himself Yeye which could be translated as paternal grandfather but I’m keeping the pinyin words as it should only be a nick name for him). It will be best that you pray that the Qi Family can be obedient to take money to redeem you, otherwise, just do not blame me for being vicious and merciless!”

Qi Family?! It could not be this coincidental, right!! Could it be that this person was the one whom Qi Tian Yu asked Qian Jing to catch? Actually, this person was not stupid, Qi Family would not think that he was actually hiding at their own house and right in front of their eyes, moreover with this much dense like jungle, hiding one or two people, was extremely easy.

A muffled female voice, was sobbing and panicking, saying: “You must not kill me, my elder brother will take money to redeem me!”

This girl could not be regarded as stupid either, did not expose her own identity who was actually a servant girl, otherwise the bandit would get angry, her young life would be finished. Zhuo Qing raised her legs to move forward again, mentally and secretly praying that she could leave smoothly on her own. The girl’s intelligent would let her persevere for a while to wait for her to look for people to come and rescue her.

Zhuo Qing’s self comfort had not finished, the girl’s frightened yelling already echoed: “You, what do you want to do!? Go away!!”

“You can feel relieved, kill, I will not kill you, this smooth skinned, (again an idiom, 细皮嫩肉-xi pi wen rou & can be translated literally as soft skin and tender flesh), Laozi has not tasted this daughter of a rich family, what the taste is!”

Shoot! The vulgar language made Zhuo Qing’s goose bumps raised up! The next thing that would happen, just used toes to think and one would also know!

“If you injure me, my.... my elder brother will not give you any money!” This girl used the best effort, wanted to appease the man at all costs, unfortunately the man could not be persuaded, spit and scolded: “Do not give? Do not give just let him receive a corpse, ok!”

“Begging you! Begging you, do not do it!”

“Help....”

Then a tearing sound of a clothing, a woman’s wailing sound, a man’s wantonly laughter, everything was a rasp, grinding Zhuo Qing’s heart. Her mind flashed through countless females’ corpses because of the deadly rapes, Zhuo Qing’s hand was grasping tighter and tighter! Darn it, darn it, darn it! She was

anxious as if she was in an impossible situation, if she ignored the girl to walk on her own, she reckoned that she would be un-peaceful for a life time, but if she rushed to go in, the outcome would only be more messy! What to do, what to do.... Quickly think, quickly think....

## Record of Washed Grievances Chapter 32: So Bad Luck (Part 2)

Surprise! I will post the last part of this “So Bad Luck” related chapters on the next update on Sunday. Have a great weekend!

I definitely did not enjoy translating this chapter. Not sure which one was worst, describing dead body or open wound fracture.

This chapter was edited by Din2.

Zhuo Qing still had not figured out what to do, just heard a strong wind flashed through the side of her ears, followed by a loud sound of movement. Staring to look at, a fist sized rock rolled all the way forward, Zhuo Qing's back went cold, she obviously did not move that rock, where did the rock come from?!

“Who is that?!” Inside the cave, an alert male's voice lowly roared.

Zhuo Qing's heart was panicky, hurriedly retreated to squeeze into the bushes on the side, suddenly one pair of big hands grabbed her shoulder. One hand was covering her mouth, while she was dragged to the side. Zhuo Qing was shocked, struggling with all her might, then her ears heard both familiar and unfamiliar male sounds, lowly echoed: “I will draw him to go out, you go in to save the person.”

This voice? It was.... Qian Jing? Zhuo Qing no longer struggled, the hand that grabbed her also let go at last. Zhuo Qing hurriedly turned around, hazy rain fog, towards a pair of deep like peaceful eyes, the person who came was indeed Qian Jing. But this time, his eyes were solemn, and as different as they could be than his ordinarily sloppy's appearance, Zhuo Qing was absent minded for a split second.

Qian Jing lightly pushed her to the side of the cave near the back of the mountain rocks, he ran towards the pole, and stood outside. Qian Jing put both of his hands on the hips, while his mouth shouted: “In broad daylight, clear sky, unexpectedly and violently snatched a woman from an ordinary family, Xiao Ye

(he's calling himself Xiao Ye this time) could not just watch and do nothing, still did not come out to accept your death!"

Zhuo Qing immediately filled her head with sinister thought, it was obviously clouded and covered with dense, moonless night and high wind, where did the broad day light come from, clear sky, he was really that hooligan whom she was familiar with! Feeling apprehensive in her heart, Zhuo Qing was sticking closed to the rocks' wall, carefully hiding herself. Suddenly, a light flew out of the cave, Qian Jing jumped side way, had barely dodged it, afterward, a silvery light unexpectedly returned to the cave once again. Zhuo Qing was fearful secretly, what kind of weapon was it.

"Immature and inexperienced small child, watched it that Yeye did not chop you up!" Along with a rude roar, one tall and robust big person showed up, the strong and muscular' body could somewhat scare people. Zhuo Qing carefully looked at the weapon on his hand, discovered that his arm was twisted with several thin iron chains, underneath the iron chains were hanging a ball smaller than a fist, the surface of the ball was densely packed, flashing coldness barbs. If it hit you, you were sure to be mutilated badly.

Zhuo Qing held her breath, curled up her body tighter, only heard Qian Jing sneered: "Then just look who will die first!" The throwing knife flew out advancing towards that big person. The big person stroke the ball out, a bang bang sound, the throwing knife and the ball stroke with a trace of spark. The big person did not take it lying down, waved the iron chain with his hand to attack Qian Jing, Qian Jing flew backwards. The big person pursued the retreating enemy, the two weapons came into contact, the sound of plants were swaying more and more distant. Zhuo Qing lifted up her long skirt, agilely ran to go in.

The cave was quite big, there was a burning fire in the middle, a small corner, a disheveled and ragged woman was curling up on the ground, she was frightened and staring at her, the thin body was shivering repeatedly.

Zhuo Qing stepped forward, urgently said: "Stand up quickly, follow me."

The woman not only did not stand up, she was also still afraid and withdrawn, Zhuo Qing pulled the woman's arm to support her to stand up, at the same time explained: "You are Ru-er, right, it is Qi Tian Yu who makes us come to save you,

do not ask too many questions, we will leave now and put off this discussion until later.”

It wasn't easy to pull the woman to stand up, she was nevertheless still leaning on her closely and trembling repeatedly, motionless. Zhuo Qing was anxious, still did not speak, the woman concealed the glistening teardrops from her eyes, miserably looking at her, with a trembling voice said: “I can not move my leg....”

You could not move? Zhuo Qing raised her leg, a burn flame reflection, Zhuo Qing finally saw clearly that the woman's right leg had a distinct open fracture unexpectedly.

“Darn it!” Zhuo Qing lowly cursed, the wound cut was unusually big, the bone calf was severely exposed, the flesh was ripped apart, too late to treat and fix it, this servant girl's leg would be crippled, so to speak, the wound was too large and already started an infection that could take her young life! No wonder that man dared to leave her by herself in the cave, he already broke her leg at an earlier time, let alone tried to run away, she could not even crawl out of this cave!

Looking at the circumstances of the wound surface and the woman's somewhat apathetic's expression, this injury was certainly more than 12 hours. She could not carry her, if she dragged her, afraid after walking not too far, outside was also full of weeds and dried up branches, if there was one more infection.... Zhuo Qing judged the circumstances rapidly, supported the woman to sit down, ran to the side of the bonfire, looked for two dry branches, returned to the woman's side. She was tearing her skirt to make some strips of clothes, while saying lowly: “You must endure it!”

Ru-er still did not response, Zhuo Qing already grabbed her calf, the technique to set the bone straight up was fast and accurate.

“Aahhh.....” The pain from the restoring of the bone made Ru-er nearly fainted, slowly coming back with great difficulty, Zhuo Qing already helped to use the branches to fasten the wound properly, a long sigh of relief, Zhuo Qing supported her to stand up again, and asked: “Can you move it?” Everything was entirely a stop gap measure, the strips of clothing were rotating around the right leg tightly, could only ensure that she would not suffer a second fracture,

without the disinfection, the infection was inevitable, just wished that she could withstand to go!

Lightly moving the right leg, still hurt, but could already use strength! Ru-er lowered her lips, exerted strength to nod and answer: "I can, let us go, ok!"

"Let us go." Zhuo Qing was supporting Ru-er to go to the outside of the cave, her heart secretly exclaimed in admiration, one tenacious and smart woman.

"Go to which direction?!"

Two people walked away, the big person's black and robust silhouette appeared, somewhat complacent, laughed heartily and said: "Thinking to lure an enemy away from his territory, how many years you regarded Laozi to muddle along in Jiang Hu, entirely and clearly in vain!"

Ru-er's body could not help trembling, Zhuo Qing's heart raised to her throat, this was the first time that she clearly felt her own frantic heartbeat. Supporting Ru-er, they both retreated all the way, until the ice cold of the wall rocks, no space to retreat anymore.

The fire was burning more and more, Zhuo Qing's skirt was already torn into a miniskirt, inside the pants that she was wearing was also so thin. The big person's expression was dark, his gaze was looking up and down at Zhuo Qing: "Ck, ck, ck, the heavens treat me better ah... This woman is more exciting!"

The big person approached step by step, just in time when his hand was going to grab Zhuo Qing's shoulder at once, one frivolous edge of blade was flying to attack, the big person promptly dodged his hand. Zhuo Qing also seized the opportunity to drag Ru-er to run to the other direction, who would have thought, after running out for a few steps, Zhuo Qing's neck was tightened, one fierce power grasped to pull her back. In a moment of desperation, Zhuo Qing could only let go, and pushed Ru-er's sleeveless garment firmly, wanted to push her outside the cave, just in time for Qian Jing to come in and catch her head on.

Dragging Zhuo Qing to stand in front of himself, the big person fearlessly shouted: "Young brats, you and I do not have any grievance and animosity in the past or today, I do not want to kill you, you seem to be in a tangle, do not blame me for being ruthless."

With her neck was covered and pulled by the big person's iron chain tightly, Zhuo Qing was nearly breathless, with flushed complexion, Qian Jing's cold phoenix eyes, helped Ru-er up. Qian Jing turned around, with cold voice answered: "You and I indeed do not have any hatred and desire for revenge, but one person's wealth is also another person's calamity, if you really have the ability, just fight with me alone, only can take a woman as a shield, mouth shows off as vicious and fierce, are you still a man!?"

"Using this negative remarks method to spur Laozi into action is useless!" The big person used his strength to pull the iron chain. Zhuo Qing was breathing sluggishly, breathing deeply became extremely difficult. Looking at Qian Jing clenched his hand into a fist momentarily, the big person knew that he caught the right person, with a stern voice shouted: "It is best that you obediently throw away the throwing knives that are in your hand, otherwise I will snap her throat!"

Wishing to cry but there was no tears, it was already sufficient to describe her feeling now, ever since she came to this terrible place, she just walked into misfortune continuously, her neck repeatedly suffered a calamity!! Exhausting her full strength to keep on breathing, Zhuo Qing originally thought that Qian Jing would be the same as last time to pretend to take things less seriously and continue to infuriate the big person, then trying to find the opportunity to counterattack, in any case, he already rescued Ru-er.

Who would have thought...

Bang, bang, a clear and loud sound echoed, leaving behind silvery lights of the thin edge of the blades that were thrown away to the ground. Zhuo Qing was staring at Qian Jing, was he crazy?! Did not have the throwing knives, how could he fight with the big person? How he could do it, not only he was unable to save them, but also would have to indemnify for his own life! Or, he still had other hidden throwing knives somewhere else?

"You should also throw away the throwing knives that are on your waist, do not think to play trick on me!" Obviously the big person was also anticipated this point. Qian Jing hesitated in a moment, the big person tightened the iron chain one more time. Zhuo Qing who was in pain coughed.

Must not throw away ah! Disregarding the pain on her neck, Zhuo Qing was staring at Qian Jing firmly, by all means, you should not throw away!! The four eyes were staring for a short period of time, with serene and deep eyes, Zhuo Qing could not see what he was thinking in the end, her ears simply heard a few more sounds, a few thin edge of blades already fell to the ground.

# Record of Washed Grievances Chapter 33: So Bad Luck (Part 3)

This chapter is way longer than Chapter 28. Over 2,750 English words. Wow! Sorry another cliffhanger...

After discussing with Din2, we will try to post 3 chapters a week on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

This chapter was edited by Din2.

Looking at the throwing knives that fell to the ground completely, the big person laughed willfully, a very ear piercing like sound, then withdrew the iron chain, the big person pushed Zhuo Qing to one side, pointed at Qian Jing and laughingly said: “Young brats, Laozi will send you to meet your Maker (die)!”

The big person was waving the ball, hitting towards Qian Jing. Qian Jing half squatted to dodge the ball, a move that swept across the dead leaves, the foot kicked the side of the edge of blades to stand up.

Wanting to get the weapon, but it was not that easy, the big person regained the ball, the iron swept, the majority of the throwing knives were swept outside of the cave, only a few fell at Qian Jing’s hand. Knowing in his heart that this was an inauspicious time, Qian Jing was shouting at Zhuo Qing: “Hurry go!”

Zhuo Qing covered her neck and stumbled to get up all the way, then turned around to see, in order to withstand the ball, Qian Jing already used up all the throwing knives that were on his hand. Beckoning that he was in more and more difficult situation, he was almost hit by the ball several times, outside the cave, the thin edge of the blades that flew outside were faintly shining in white light.

In a flash, Zhuo Qing picked up ten throwing knives from the ground, once again ran back to the cave to face Qian Jing’s direction to throw them over, and shouted loudly: “Qian Jing, catch.”

The big person absolutely did not think that Zhuo Qing would come back with this trick, turning around, as if it was sort of like rain of the thin edge of blades

were advancing towards them. The big person waved the iron chain to try to cut off once again, unfortunately Qian Jing already took advantage of the situation by catching many throwing knives.

With more weapons, inside the cave, the big person's long chain clearly could not compare to Qian Jing's flexible throwing knives. Haggling for several times, his body was already hit by several knives.

"Stinking woman!" (I think these words 臭娘们 technically can be translated into stinking b\*\*\*\*, but I'll make it softer and use woman instead). If it was not because of her to throw and give the throwing knives to Qian Jing, how could he sustain injuries! The big person casted an angry look at Zhuo Qing, changed direction, the hand that had the ball turned towards Zhuo Qing's direction to attack.

Qian Jing was shocked, the wrist moved strongly, the hand with the throwing knife aimed at the big person's wrist and threw it, the throwing knife's power penetrated crushingly (the original words are 千 (thousand) 钧 (30 catties) – it's an equivalent to a 30,000 thousand catties. According to Wikipedia, one catty equals to 1 1/3 lbs so you can figure out how much strength that QJ is using), immediately pierced through the wrist, did not enter into the big person's abdomen. The big person suffered a great pain (the original words are 吃 (eat) 疼 (pain), the hand's strength was already loosen, but the ball was still flying towards Zhuo Qing's face.

Zhuo Qing retreated one step, knocked against the stone wall, unable to retreat anymore. Zhuo Qing subconsciously lifted her arms to protect her face, the ball hit somebody and a sound echoed. Zhuo Qing, however, did not feel any pain, put down her hands, just saw Qian Jing's tall body stood in front of her.

"Qian Jing!" Zhuo Qing ran in front of his body, but one long iron chain dragged on the ground, the ball impartially hang at the position of his heart. Looking at the sharp barbs on the ball, Zhuo Qing's heart tightened, hurriedly supported him, Qian Jing stumbled one step, two people stumbled to sit on the ground, the atmosphere, the strong reeking of blood smell made Zhuo Qing's heart to jump frantically.

Zhuo Qing only thought that her brain exploded with heat, she did not know

what to say: “Why did you...” She really did not understand, this man whom she only met three times, why did he want to get hit because of her?!

Why did he save her? Qian Jing also did not know why, he had said once that even if she looked for him, he would not look for her again, was not so?! But he simply did not think too much just a moment ago, his body was quicker than his reaction to throw himself quickly, he did not know for what reason, maybe simply did not want an innocent person to sustain injury, nothing more.

Looking at Zhuo Qing’s appearance who was perplexed and with guilty conscience, Qian Jing was gasping lowly and mockingly said: “You are already... ugly enough, if you are even uglier, you will scare a dead person....”

Why was this man forever not being serious, had he not seen that the blood in his chest was pouring out?! Zhuo Qing really wanted to scold back, but the voice was stuck in her throat.

Looking a glance at the big person who struggled on the ground, Qian Jing pushed away Zhuo Qing, said: “You go.... Help Ru-er up, we leave quickly....”

This push made Zhuo Qing recovered eventually, pushing Qian Jing’s body to make him half laying down on the ground to ease the gravity of the ball downward, carefully examined the depth of the wound. There were three barbs that pierced the left side, luckily the injury was not deep, there was no injury to the thoracic cavity organs (rib cage and associated skin, muscle, fascia). However, pulling the barbs by force, not only the wound surface would be big, the muscle would also be torn excessively, the injury could reach the internal organs.

Zhuo Qing raised her eyes to look at the outside of the cave, the sound of dripping rain was echoing again, lightly pressing, did not let him to get up, Zhuo Qing heavily said: “Out of the question, it is raining outside, your wound can not handle it, not even half a shichen time (one hour), you will die because of losing too much blood!”

Touching a few acupuncture points, Qian Jing shook his head, persisted to stand up: “I have already sealed the acupuncture points, I will not die, we have to go, he is very dangerous, I am now... not able to protect you again.”

Sealing the acupuncture points would not make him die? Then she could

immediately lose her job! Zhuo Qing did not believe his arguments, but looking towards the ground, covering the wound on his abdomen, the incessantly shouting from the big person, Zhuo Qing was also somewhat anxious. The way he was now should not have any threat, but could not rule out that he would wait to strike and go all out to risk his life!

Lowering her eyebrows to ponder for a moment, Zhuo Qing suddenly got up to pick up the most thick tree stick on the ground, walking to the big person's side, the big person started to open his eyes big. Zhuo Qing without demur, grabbed the tree stick, aimed it at behind his neck about three centimeters and ferociously stroke it down! This was quick, accurate and fierce, the big person could only groan, and it was over.

Zhuo Qing crouched, inspected one time, confirmed that the big person indeed fainted and threw away the tree stick on her hand, lightly patted her hands of the sawdust, Zhuo Qing turned around to see towards the half laid down person on the ground, Qian Jing who had this strange facial expression, unhurriedly asked: "Will this be ok?"

Qian Jing was stupefied, this woman.... Recalling their first meeting, she also caught him off guard when she threw out a big person who was double in strength than herself at that time, it seemed that he underestimated her. Qian Jing shook his head, forced a bitter laugh and said: "I have never met.... a woman like you who was this violent and barbarous."

Violent and barbarous? Fine, Zhuo Qing indifferently answered: "You have seen it now." He was indeed ignorant and narrow minded, if he had the opportunity to meet Gu Yun, he would know what the real violence and barbarous was.

Walking to support Ru-er to arrive at the side of the bonfire, and then sit down, Zhuo Qing softly said: "Ru-er, you help me set the fire up a little."

Ru-er nodded firmly, this young woman's courage and insight made people admire endlessly.

Walking for a couple steps, Zhuo Qing picked up the tree stick from the ground once again, handed it over to Ru-er, said: "Hold this, if he wakes up, you just give him another hit." Her main fear was, if at that time she was halfway treating his

wound, the big person woke up, it would be troublesome.

Ru-er took a bigger than her arm stick, then looked at the big person on the side who remained unconscious. Looking at Zhuo Qing's cold and firm face, secretly swallowed a mouthful of saliva, challengingly answered: "Oh.... I.... got it."

In her heart, this was somewhat difficult for her, but she had no choice under the current circumstances. Zhuo Qing walked back to Qian Jing's side, supported him to lie down, said: "I will help you to treat the wound now."

Qian Jing grabbed Zhuo Qing's hand who was just about to undo the front part of his jacket, with a suspicious face: "Can you do it....?"

Zhuo Qing softly raised her eyebrows, she indeed possessed a surgeon qualification. Moreover the way she moved the knife was absolutely better than any other young surgeon, and towards the flesh of the body, bones, internal organs' research, an average surgeon was by far inferior! This small operation for her was as easy as turning her hand, so to speak.

Zhuo Qing stretched her hand again, Qian Jing shouted again: "Hold on. Help me take.... out the medicine bottle from my waist."

Rummaging through his waist to try to find it for a moment, Zhuo Qing found one small porcelain bottle, opened the wooden cork, a faintly smell of the medicine dissipated out, emptied out the bottle, but there was nothing inside. Handing over the medicine bottle to him, Zhuo Qing indifferently said: "There is no more."

No more? Qian Jing cried piteously, why there was no more medicine at this time, could it be that the heaven wanted to extinct him!!

The smell of this medicine, was very familiar.... Zhuo Qing bowed her head to try to find a hidden pocket inside the belt for a moment, took out one small pouch, carefully opened it, poured it out and looked. Zhuo Qing secretly rejoiced, she handed over the small pill from her hand to Qian Jing, Zhuo Qing laughed and said: "Lucky for you, fortunately it does not get soaked, eat it, ok." At that time, he said that this medicine was something to staunch a bleeding, frightened repose, detoxify fever/cold, a good elixir medicine! Hoping it was really that good...

“This is.....” Qian Jing received and looked, this was the medicine that he gave her last time, as it turned out she did not throw it away.... Picking up two thin knife blades, Zhuo Qing examined carefully, the cutting edge was very sharp, the thickness was also appropriate, finally she chose one knife. Her back was facing towards Qian Jing, she held the knife and placed it on the fire to sterilize it. Zhuo Qing whispered: “You let me preserve this life properly, you owe 100 liang now.”

Looking at the beautiful reflection of her back that was facing him, Qian Jing’s heart secretly filled up with strange feeling, lowly sighed, Qian Jing said: “Ok, let us begin.”

Holding the intended temporary surgical knife properly, Zhuo Qing walked to Qian Jing’s side, comfortingly said: “You have to tolerate, very quickly.”

“Let us do it!” Qian Jing unafraid of dying’s appearance made Zhuo Qing dumbfounded, he would still feel relaxed and play a joke at this moment!!

The blood already stuck on the clothing and skin together, Zhuo Qing carefully torn open the front jacket. Using the flame, Zhuo Qing carefully researched the position of the blade afterwards, then she started without the slightest hesitation: “En, ah...” Without anesthetic, forcibly cutting the wound, one could imagine the pain. Although Qian Jing’s endurance could already be regarded as astonishing, but the pain caused by muscle contraction and unconsciously violent resistance caused her difficulty to continue with the knife, Zhuo Qing tightly knitted her brows. Sure enough, she did not suit to do a surgery! By comparison, she still liked dead bodies more, because they absolutely would obediently allow her to do whatever she pleased.

Accurately cutting open the adhesion to the muscle tissue, it only took 10 minutes, the whole barbs were taken out, the lethal weapon was thrown to the side. Zhuo Qing looked towards Qian Jing, he was holding firm both of his fists continuously, the flame shined down, his complexion was dark red, beads of sweat fell on his cheeks and to the ground, he was gasping a big mouthful of air disorderly, lightly patting his cheeks, Zhuo Qing heavily narrated: “Qian Jing, already done, you relax.”

Although the lethal weapon was taken out, but there was no disinfectant, even more, no suture tool, fortunately, comparing with the same surgery, Qian Jing

wound's measurement was surprisingly small. Could it be that in martial arts' novels, sealing some acupuncture points, the blood could temporarily stop, this thing was real!? This was extremely magical, she could actually research it properly!

The current problem was what she could use to wrap his wound in order to prevent infection, she could not tear her clothing again, otherwise, she would be naked!

"Hiss...." Zhuo Qing was still worried, the sound of a clothing that was being ripped up echoed. Zhuo Qing went back just to see Ru-er was snatching a big chunk of clothing, handed it over to her, and said: "For you."

The sides of her legs were exposed, Ru-er was really not used to, she pulled back her legs desperately, but the hand with the strips of the skirt still firmly handed them over to Zhuo Qing. Zhuo Qing took the clothing, thankfully smiled and said: "Thank you."

Ru-er felt embarrassing and shook her head, she did not help them with anything, if they did not save her, she would already.... Zhuo Qing took the clothing and tore it into strips, connected them together, gently helped up Qian Jing, rapidly wrapped up the wound, after the sharp pain, Qian Jing's brain was more clear headed. Looking at the busy and skillful Zhuo Qing who was wrapping his wound, Qian Jing narrowed his tiny phoenix eyes, lowly gasping to ask: "You... are a doctor...."

Qian Jing secretly pondered her identify, facing blood and fierce wound, she was cool and calm, with a knife was steady and without hesitation, an agile skill as people had no choice but to admire. She would be unquestionably a medical expertise, but she was quite familiar with treating the wound like she had already treated numerous times of similar injuries like this. An ordinary doctor would just feel the pulse at most, then boil medicine. The opportunity to access this kind of knife injury was not many, especially she was still a rich young lady.... Doctor? "You can consider it like that." Forensic investigator was also a doctor, right~~ wrapping up the wound properly, Zhuo Qing released a long breath, she was tired and slumped on the ground, and said: "You rest for a moment, at dawn we will...."

Qian Jing's phoenix eyes suddenly trembled with fear, complexion was gloomy, grasped her wrist firmly, softly said: "There is someone!"

There was someone!? Zhuo Qing relaxed her nerves just a moment ago and had to brace once again, impossible, ok! Looking at a disabled person, then she looked at herself whose clothing was not even covering her body, battered and exhausted, Zhuo Qing cried piteously, this night still did not have enough frustration, how many bad lucks could one person have after all?!

Sian's notes:

I just realized when I was reading the latest update of book 2 of the series, that Qian Jing was called Gan Jing. This is the characters for his name, 乾荆. The first character 乾 can be written down in pinyin as either Qian or Gan. Based on my dictionary, a surname with this character should be written as Qian, however google translate actually used Gan. Throughout the novel in the previous chapters though, we know that ZQ is mistakenly called him with a wrong character 'money' which is written in pinyin as 'qian' also. 'Gan' usually means dry, clean, foster, to ignore, adoptive. So I'm pretty sure that his name is Qian Jing. But I just want you to be aware that Qian Jing in book 1 and Gan Jing in book 2 are the same person.

# Record of Washed Grievances Chapter 34: Finally Saved

New posting day, I almost forgot to post the chapter. Happy Memorial Day to everybody who lives in US!

Yay!!! My favorite guy is back in this chapter.

This chapter was edited by Din2.

Hot Spring Garden (Zheng Hall)

“Xi Yan.”

Lou Xi Yan lost in thought and was looking at one direction, complexion was a little heavy, hand tilted the tea cup that was almost spilled out. Qi Tian Yu called out, he unexpectedly was completely lacked of awareness, Qi Tian Yu knitted his eyebrows, shouted once again: “Xi Yan?”

Lou Xi Yan recovered, looked towards Qi Tian Yu, asked: “Is there any news?”

When did he ever see Xi Yan felt uneasy like this? He was nervous about Qing Feng?! Unable to guess Lou Xi Yan’s thought, Qi Tian Yu did not say anything, only shook his head, answered: “There is no news, your tea is cold.”

Lou Xi Yan slowly lifted his hand, he put the tea cup that was on his hand on the teapoy (see below explanation), calmly with not even a little embarrassment, it seemed that his absent mindedness a moment ago was simply Qi Tian Yu’s vague and unclear vision, nothing more.

“Master.” Jing Sa entered Zheng hall, with heavy sound, he made a report and said: “Bei Qi Country’s diplomatic envoys are already outside Huan Yang city about 10 li (unit measurement about 1/2 km). They are camping to rest there tonight, wushi (between 11 am-1 pm) tomorrow, the Emperor will receive them at Qian Yang palace hall. A banquet is set up to entertain Bei Qi’s diplomatic envoys tomorrow evening, the palace’s Gao gonggong (a calling for a eunuch) has come over to inquire whether or not Master’s health has improved, is it

possible to participate?”

Lou Xi Yan pondered for a moment, asked: “Who is the Ambassador?”

“Bei Qi Country’s third Prince Xu Xun Si, seventh Princess Xu Yan Yun, General Hu Zhang Yu’s eldest son Hu Xi Ang.”

Third Prince, Seventh Princess, General’s eldest son? Lou Xi Yan softly raised his eyebrows, this time’s Bei Qi group envoy, was really a complete good faith. If he did not guess mistakenly, Seventh Princess should be this time’s tribute, rumor said that Bei Qi’s Seventh Princess was not only pretty but also an outstanding beauty (the original words were idiom 国色天香-guo se tian xiang, the literal translation was national grace, divine fragrance). Her dancing skill was above average to watch, too wonderful for words, extremely skillful level. Bei Qi sent her to come, the goal was already obvious. It was just that, Hong Tian, could it be that easy to confuse the great monarch? Lou Xi Yan lowly laughed and answered: “You go and answer Gao Jin, just say that I will clearly attend the evening party.”

“Yes.” Jing Sa bowed to leave.

Qi Tian Yu looked at the color of sky (to see what the time was), said: “Almost midnight (the actual words were 三更-san geng, the third of the five night watch periods between 11 pm-1 am), how about you go and rest for a moment, then return to the manor at early dawn, you have to prepare for the feast at the palace in the evening. I will continue to help you look for Qing Feng.”

Softly shaking his head, Lou Xi Yan indifferently answered: “Wait a little longer.”

Lou Xi Yan reached for the new brewed tea, holding the lid, lightly and leisurely stroking the tea leaves, complexion was normal. Qi Tian Yu secretly pondered, he was nervous a moment ago, could it be that it was him who really misjudged just now?

“Master.” Mo Bai’s footsteps were steady, stepping across to enter Zheng hall and walk to the front of Lou Xi Yan. On the one hand, he presented something to his Master, on the other hand, he said: “The great mountain was practically rummaged through, still had not found Qing Feng, but we found a trace of fighting in the forest at the back of the mountain, we were searching behind the

mountain now.”

Lou Xi Yan laid down the tea cup, took the stuff that was on Mo Bai’s hand, examined it carefully, it was one throwing knife. Lou Xi Yan’s narrowed his thin pupils: “This is... Qian Jing’s weapon.” At that time, Qian Jing was playing with this on his hand, the knife blade looked like a half moon shape, the cutting edge was sharp, the thin throwing knife was extremely rare, it could be used by even fewer people, right! If the person behind the mountain was Qian Jing, he would be fighting with whom? Qing Feng was missing no more than 3-4 shichen (6-8 hours), she was not within the great mountain, extremely possible that she would be behind the mountain..... Lou Xi Yan suddenly got up, Qi Tian Yu urgently said: “Xi Yan, where are you going?”

Draping over a robe on his shoulder, Lou Xi Yan was walking out while also answering: “Going to the back of the mountain to take a look.”

Qi Tian Yu was stunned, anxious and said: “But it is already very late now, moreover your health.....” He could be certain now, Xi Yan really cared about that woman, extremely care about her, this Qing Feng had what magic power after all, made Xi Yan care this much towards her?!

“I am all right, if I can not find her behind the mountain, I will return to the manor immediately.”

Lou Xi Yan’s footsteps were as usual, did not have the least stagnation. Xi Yan already decided about the matter, he would absolutely not change, Qi Tian Yu could only helplessly answered: “Very well, we go together.”

The delegation of people went out of the hot spring garden, walking over to the back of the mountain.

—————

The sound of footsteps were getting closer and closer, Zhuo Qing also heard a slight different sounds, the nerves braced again, Zhuo Qing rapidly observed all around, she practically could not find any place to hide. Even if there was, also could not be less than to contain three people! If they went out now, they could only walk right into the trap, Zhuo Qing secretly sighed, she could only pray at the moment, that they were not evil people who came!

Zhuo Qing was nervously watching, her wrist was suddenly tight, bowing to look, laying down on the ground, Qian Jing was half propping up his body, pulling her hand, saying: “Help me up... to sit.”

Zhuo Qing retreated to Qian Jing’s back, both hands were pushing his shoulder lightly, let him to sit down. Qian Jing picked up two throwing knives and fastened them in between his fingers, whispered behind Zhuo Qing’s back: “When possible... If you have the opportunity, you just run, do you get it?!”

Zhuo Qing stared blankly, restrained her eyebrows to ponder for a moment, nodded and said: “En.” As long as there was someone who could run to go out, there was a hope!

After listening her answer, Qian Jing was somewhat felt relieved. Ru-er’s lower lip, hands were shivering, yet still firmly held the wood stick on her hand, the three people were all holding their breaths, their two eyes rigidly watching.

Almost did not hear the sound of the footsteps, but the lightly shadows were moving to appear at the location, Qian Jing’s complexion was strict. The martial arts of the arriving people were not weak, if there was really evil intention, none of them could escape. Clasp the thin edge of blades on his hand, he could see clearly the shadow of the reflection of the double edged sword from the head of the people who were coming. Qian Jing used all of his strength, advanced toward the dark shadow, the thin edge of blades flew and shot out, the arriving person leaned on one side to brandish the soft double edge sword, two weapons were fighting together (the original characters were 短兵相接-duan Bing xiang jie, another idiom that can be translated literally as short weapons soldiery fight one another), could only hear a ‘ding!’ sound. The throwing knives flew, straightforwardly embedded in between the stone wall, next to the exposed portion of the lowly humming of the crying insects. He could only use the thin throwing knives to enter the stone wall like this so they could clearly see his big strength!

Zhuo Qing and Qian Jing were all frightened, at the same time, the arriving people also came into the cave. Looking clearly at the direction of the big tall silhouette, Zhuo Qing was pleasantly surprised and shouted: “Blue eyes?!”

Woo hoo, woo hoo, heavens really opened one’s eyes! Zhuo Qing almost burst

into tears.... Sweeping a glance at the circumstances inside the cave afterwards, Mo Bai slightly moved sideways, Lou Xi Yan's meager silhouette appeared at the entrance of the cave.

Flame shined upon, facing each other, that pair of eyes that were always gentle but they appeared to be deep and hard to fathom at this moment. Zhuo Qing's heart jumped, he.... why did he come?

Sian's notes:

It's very surprising to find out that LXY really knows about Mo Bai's tendency. Remember in the previous chapter when he was going to tell LXY that ZQ was missing, LXY knew it that there was something wrong even before Mo Bai said anything. Then, in this chapter, LXY heard Mo Bai's steady steps that were approaching him and he somehow knew or had a feeling that Mo Bai had some good news. It's very cool the way Qian Lu put these "between the lines" relationship among her characters. I love it!!!

According to Wikipedia, "a teapoy is an item of furniture. The word is of Indian origin, and was originally used to describe a three-legged table. By erroneous association with the word "tea", it is also used to describe a table with a container for tea, or a table for holding a tea service."

I was going to use just coffee table but Din2 insisted of using teapoy as there was no coffee table in the ancient period. Hehehe...

# Record of Washed Grievances Chapter 35: Really Was An Expert

Since I'm waiting for the hotel to fix the hot water so I can take a shower, I'll post this chapter a few hours earlier.

Some of you who were predicting another 'eating vinegar' moment for LXY would enjoy this chapter.

This chapter was edited by Din2.

Lou Xi Yan straightforwardly moved towards her, Zhuo Qing stood to get up, asked: "Why did you come?" His health was not suitable for any strenuous exercise, and the weather was this bad now.

Lou Xi Yan had not answered her, was only looking at a pair of long legs that were exposed, Lou Xi Yan's expression was dark, Zhuo Qing only felt that her body was warm. Lou Xi Yan's large cloak was already covering her completely, the chin was softly lifted up by him, she felt that his slightly cold fingertips were caressing the scar on her neck softly. Zhuo Qing was somewhat embarrassed and pulled her neck back, awkwardly answered: "I am fine, they injured more than me." Lou Xi Yan's not laughing appearance, she still could not get used to, her heart would always beat wildly and restlessly....

Qi Tian Yu also entered the cave, seeing clearly the circumstances inside the cave, stared blankly and said: "Ru-er, how come you are also here?" Looking at her almost naked appearance, Qi Tian Yu's complexion was cloudy, promptly took off the long gown (cheongsam) and draped it on Ru-er's body.

"Young Master!" Several days of nervousness, severe crisis one after another, looking at Qi Tian Yu, Ru-er could not help to choke with emotions in the end.

Qi Tian Yu was supporting her shoulder, wanting to help her up, unexpectedly exerted herself to stand up physically, Ru-er was immediately trembling in pain. Zhuo Qing urgently said: "Be careful, her leg suffered a fracture, it is best not to walk around."

She was saying this, Qi Tian Yu just discovered that Ru-er's leg was wrapped by a long strip of clothing, even more carefully held her to stand up. Ru-er was still unwilling to get up, facing Zhuo Qing and asked: "Miss, I have not asked for your name yet?"

"I am.... Qing Feng."

"I am Fei Ru, many thanks to Miss for saving me." Finished speaking, Fei Ru borrowed Qi Tian Yu's arm to support her, then half kneeling on the ground. Not used that the other person kowtowed herself with this big etiquette towards her, Zhuo Qing retreated back one step, pointing at Qian Jing's back and said: "Do not be like this, if you want to thank just thank him, ok."

Ru-er was still stubbornly facing Zhuo Qing to do one kowtow etiquette afterwards, only then also facing towards Qian Jing to salute. Qian Jing waved his hand, while the other hand clutched his wound, with whimpering mouth, answered: "Ok, ok, I know.... I am very powerful, you do not need to thank me, a very slight effort, a very slight effort, nothing more!"

Perhaps because of breaking away from the crisis, Qian Jing's spirit was a lot better, not allowing his joyful satisfaction, Zhuo Qing's hands were on her chest, casted a sidelong glance at him and coldly groaned to say: "A very slight effort? Yeah right, apart from the throwing knives, you are a nobody! Still call yourself a bounty hunter, you are able to live until now is indeed the heaven's blessing!"

The corner of Qian Jing's mouth was stiffed, lowly breathed and said: "What do you understand, ugly woman, apart from the throwing knives, my qing gong (轻功, I can't really translate these words as I'm not sure what the English words are. If you read Wu xia or kungfu novel, you are familiar with the movements of those martial arts people who can jump so high with this move or fly so easily. This type of light movement is called qing gong) is indeed unrivaled. Even my senior brother and senior sister (QJ is talking about his senior brother and sister from the same martial arts school) are not my match at this type of expertise, so I am a better bounty hunter than them!"

Lou Xi Yan's pupils shimmered, still remained calm and collected. How could Zhuo Qing have this good self cultivation, immediately laughed heartily and said: "Talking for a long time, just to say that running away is your greatest skill!"

Qian Jing indifferently curled his lips, groaningly said: “So what? Naturally, if you are unable to defeat, you want to run away, so running away successfully is the expert of expert! Do you know why I choose the throwing knives as my weapon? First, it is because playing with it is very handsome. Second, if I am unable to defeat the person, I can run easily! Hiss—” While talking, Qian Jing could not help to want to gesture, so he pulled the wound and grimaced in pain.

Zhuo Qing hurriedly crouched, anxiously said: “How are you feeling?! Do not get carried away!” This person was indeed an eccentric person, the so called martial arts people would be shy and embarrassed to speak about leaving behind and running away on their own? He was actually good, said justly and forcefully, but also because he did not have an undeserved reputation, frankly, it really made Zhuo Qing admire him.

Covering the wound that was unbearably painful with his hand, Qian Jing stared at Zhuo Qing, shouted: “If it were not because of you who were in the way, how could I be this much miserable!?”

Looking at his raging appearance, Zhuo Qing could not get angry, instead laughed lowly, the more she laughed, the more Qian Jing stared at her fiercely. Zhuo Qing laughed even louder, two people were staring and competing at each other, ignoring the other people who were on the side. Qi Tian Yu secretly looked at Lou Xi Yan, only saw that his face did not have any expression, unconsciously narrowed his eyes slightly, also slightly flicked his index finger to show that his mood was not good now.

Lightly coughing, Qi Tian Yu hurriedly handed over Ru-er to the side of the bodyguard, went to walk to Qian Jing’s side, said: “Brother Qian, I see that your injury is not light, it will be better that you follow me to return to the hot spring garden now, I will ask the doctor to diagnose and treat you.”

Qian Jing withdrew his line of sight, refreshingly nodded and answered: “Fine, fine!” Saving him money to see the doctor ~~~

“Someone comes!” Qi Tian Yu called out, then the two bodyguards came to support Qian Jing.

Zhuo Qing stretched her waist, she was about to follow after them to return to the hot spring garden together, her wrist was met by a slightly ice cold’s hand,

Zhuo Qing did not understand and looked at the side towards Lou Xi Yan. Lou Xi Yan carefully pulled her cloak, faintly and quietly said: “I want to rush to return to the Prime Minister’s manor now, Bei Qi’s diplomatic envoys arrived earlier in Qiong Yue, I have to attend the banquet at the palace tomorrow evening. I want to take advantage of the situation to take you along, and arrange the meeting between you and your elder sister, you can come back here after the end of the banquet. You want to return with me now, or want to stay at the hot spring garden to rest properly, and meet your elder sister next time?” (Very smooth, LXY or should I call him “fox” )

Zhuo Qing thought about it, and answered: “I... will return with you.” This opportunity might have disappeared, did not know when it could be arranged again.

Lou Xi Yan lightly supported Zhuo Qing with his hand to walk outside the cave. Looking at the two people’s backs who were walking hand in hand, Qi Tian Yu broke into laughter and shook his head, Xi Yan, this trick was indeed clever to use, in order to capture, one must let loose, with his knowledge of Xi Yan, regardless of whether or not Qing Feng was willing, Xi Yan was sure to take her away. And not only that she was delighted to go with him now, she must still thank him. A fox was exactly a fox..... Walking to the entrance of the cave, Lou Xi Yan returned directly to the Prime Minister’s manor from the back of the mountain. Qi Tian Yu went directly to the hot spring garden from the back door. Two groups of people must also take different roads.

Zhuo Qing looked at Qian Jing, laughed and said: “Qian Jing, thank you, take care of yourselves.”

Qian Jing nodded his head, loudly answered: “I owe you this one favor this time, I will remember it, if there is an opportunity, I will return it back to you.”

Who owed who in the end? If it were not because of her, he would not sustain an injury, ok. Zhuo Qing’s heart was grateful at him, but her mouth purposely laughed and said: “You do not need to return the favor to me, but you still owe me 100 liang, make sure you keep your body healthy, pay me back as soon as possible!”

Qian Jing stared blankly afterwards, hatefully shouted: “You want money but I

do not have it, only have one life!”

Zhuo Qing did not know whether to laugh or cry: “You are indeed Qian (money) Jing (extremely)!!” Unbearably shaking her head, Zhuo Qing faced Lou Xi Yan, lightly laughed and said: “Let us go.” He still had strength to roar back at her, she did not need to worry because of him.

Lou Xi Yan nodded, recalling Lou Xi Wu made him get a headache endlessly. Lou Xi Yan thought a little, spoke towards Qi Tian Yu: “Tian Yu, I hand over Xi Wu to you to look after for several days, wait until she reflects upon herself, it will be enough, I will send people to take her back.”

“Ok.” Qi Tian Yu straightforwardly promised.

Two people walked down the mountain side by side, Zhuo Qing asked: “Did you find Xi Wu?”

The road to go down the mountain was somewhat rugged, Lou Xi Yan supported Zhuo Qing’s shoulder, indifferently answered: “Found her.”

The mountain road was indeed difficult to travel, Zhuo Qing did not mind Lou Xi Yan’s lending arm to support her, only curiously asked: “Who found her?”

“Jing Sa.”

“How coincidental?” Zhuo Qing lowly laughed: “Was it possible that girl did it on purpose!”

Lou Xi Yan softly raised his eyebrows, faintly smiled and asked: “Then, did you do it on purpose?”

“I...?” Zhuo Qing wished to cry but there was no tear, said: “Injustice ah! The matter is like this.....”

The voice was getting smaller and smaller, nearly could not hear what they were talking, but two people’s backs were holding hands and going down the mountain, this anybody could see them clearly. Withdrawing his line of sight, Qian Jing’s twitchy eyebrows were knitted tightly, what was he seeing.... That ugly woman was originally Lou Xi Yan’s woman! He should be concerned how much Qi Tian Yu would give him the reward ah, right, right, right, money was still more lovely! He should have 300 liang, right, maybe 400 liang?

Sian's note:

Hahaha... ZQ was busted for indirectly causing LXW to run away. LXY seemed to know everything.

Love, love, love the bantering between ZQ & QJ. I also love it when LXY was eating vinegar watching the back & forth arguments between ZQ & QJ. Hehehe... FYI, I don't know if you all realize that this author really likes using idioms. My goodness, the amount of idioms that I have to translate so I have decided to skip the literal explanations for those idiom translations going forward. I hope it's alright doing it this way.

# Record of Washed Grievances Chapter 36: Attended The Banquet

This chapter was edited by Din2.

The beginning of moonlight, sunshine had not dispersed warm, bright moon already blossomed to produce gentle feelings, nightfall of the Huan Yang city. Fading away the daytime's clamor and complexity, it still appeared as the first city of Qiong Yue's heritage and the unique atmosphere of the monarch. Leading to the road to the Imperial City, sedan carriages, chariots were in endless streams, it was clear how majestic the palace banquet would be tonight.

The government officials' horse chariots were many, but among these, one chariot however seemed to be different to attract the eyes, the essence of the woven silk fabrics interweaved with gold threads to make and become the dark red body of the chariot. Both sides were embroidered with golden silk cloud patterns, four color uniform fine horses pulled the shaft, entirely were floating with golden ray, thus it was not an eye catching reason for the gorgeous, rather every chariot that went through its body side of the chariot, sedan chairs were all unconsciously slowed down. Nobody had the courage to travel side by side, merely because this chariot's owner, precisely the current Qiong Yue under one person but above ten of thousands of people's Prime Minister\_\_ Lou Xi Yan.

"Are you sure this way is possible?" Staring at the half leaning against the body of the chariot while closing his eyes to rest's Lou Xi Yan, Zhuo Qing uncomfortably pulled the overhead of the strange hat. They said that this gray dust Chinese style gown (paozi) was the lowest grade of eunuchs' clothes, next, it was actually ugly, mainly this big hat was pressing her uncomfortably, but one thing was good, her face was almost covered by the brim of the hat, unable to see her appearance clearly.

Lou Xi Yan broke into laughter, slowly opened his eyes, pulled down Zhuo Qing and absentmindedly pulled her hand, smily said: "Be at ease, after we enter the palace, I will let the palace's young court eunuch to bring you to your elder

sister's garden, this occasion today, your elder sister will not attend, whatever words you want to say to each other, you can chat slowly, wait until the banquet is finished, I will send someone to go and get you."

He dressed up very formally today, light blue trim robe (chang pao-traditional Chinese dress), buttoned jacket embroidered with silver silk woven of the men's clothing to match with the purple golden hat. Originally, he already had these handsome features, graceful manners background vividly and thoroughly, but in between his eye brows still displayed faintly exhaustion from time to time. Zhuo Qing sincerely said: "Lou Xi Yan, thank you." Qing Feng's identity was only a gift, however he took a lot of trouble for her in this way, Zhuo Qing was impressed by this man's bearing.

However, feeling touch was only maintained for one second, because the next moment, Lou Xi Yan buckled her fingers, softly smiled and said: "If Feng-er agrees to call me Xi Yan, I will be happier than hearing these two characters 'thank you'."

What was this?! Zhuo Qing secretly cursed, she threw off his hand, perked up a crafty smiling expression, Zhuo Qing looked like she was patting a puppy, softly patting Lou Xi Yan's cheek, laughingly said: "Xiao Yan Yan, be obedient, do not push your luck!" (得寸进尺-de cun jin zhi, an idiom that literally means to win an inch, want a foot. Like LXY isn't satisfied with a small gain). Wanting to make somebody more nauseating with the appellation, she would not sink behind the man~

Xiao Yan Yan~~ Lou Xi Yan's face was momentarily petrified.....

Looking across the smiling, swaying and willful woman, the corner of his mouth was raised, he himself had not paid attention to pamper and spoil anybody, Lou Xi Yan lightly shook his head. On this earth, she was perhaps the only person who dared to make fun of his name like this, ok.

"Master, we have arrived at the palace gate." Mo Bai's muffled voice came from the outside of the chariot.

"En." Lou Xi Yan faintly responded, he was facing Zhuo Qing to gesture a silence signal. Zhuo Qing pushed down her willful laugh, nodded her head clearly.

The guards at the palace gate naturally recognized Prime Minister Lou's

chariot, did not dare to neglect, the chariot merely stopped at the palace gate, then conveniently travelled to inside the palace slowly.

Entering the palace wall, the external appearance was conspicuously very peaceful, could listen to the passing by chariots with people from time to time, but the sound was entirely and extremely soft. Zhuo Qing could clearly feel the change of the atmosphere, oppressive and hard, a woman living inside the palace like this was absolutely not an easy thing. She hoped that the person whom she would be seeing was Gu Yun, but again, she wished it was not her at the same time.

Zhuo Qing was silent, the chariot went to one section of the road afterwards, slowly stopped.

Mo Bai's voice echoed once again: "Master, Xiao Liu Zi has arrived." (That name Xiao Liu Zi wasn't actually a name. They came from characters 小六子- Xiao (small) Liu (number 6) Zi (child), it's like a nickname that MB called him. I think the kid was only 6 years old, thus, the nick name of Xiao Liu Zi).

Lou Xi Yan lightly lifted the curtain, took the lead to get down from the chariot. Zhuo Qing also followed behind him, arranged her clothing, directly jumped to get off of the chariot. Lou Xi Yan laughingly shook his head, was she really the Qing family's young lady? He had genuinely never seen any girl from a wealthy family with this kind of behavior.

Lou Xi Yan got off the chariot, one gray silhouette came out from the side of the tree and bowed, slightly tiny voice quietly paid respect and said: "Xiaode greets Prime Minister Lou."

The sky was extremely dark, he was continuously half bowing, Zhuo Qing could not see his appearance, but looking at the body shape and listening to the voice, it could not be more than 10 years old boy.

Pulling Zhuo Qing to step forward, Lou Xi Yan softly explained and said: "You take her to Qing Ling's courtyard immediately, guard the outside, after the palace banquet is finished, take her to the north palace gate."

"Prime Minister Lou....." Xiao Liu Zi crawled on the ground, his voice was somewhat trembling.

Lou Xi Yan's pupils were slightly shimmering, he already guessed that the matter had changed, holding Zhuo Qing's hand on the hallow of his palm, Lou Xi Yan asked: "What had happened?"

Kneeling on the ground, Xiao Liu Zi with a trembling voice answered: "Qing Beauty attended the Emperor last night, and angered Dragon Yan, already demoted as a palace maid, in the evening time, the government's domestic affair took away the person."

As it turned out, Qing Ling was already conferred a title as a beauty, but how was serving one night could anger Dragon Yan. It looked like Gu Yun's talent and fiery temperament, Zhuo Qing's back was cold, urgently asked: "Where is she now?"

Xiao Liu Zi slightly lifted his head, only saw this youngster's hand that was pulled by Prime Minister Lou's hand tightly, already knew that this was the type of person who could not be offended, hurriedly lowered his head, terrifyingly replied: "Xiaoren does not know, Xiaoren does not really know."

Lightly waving his hand, Lou Xi Yan tranquilly said: "You can go, let Head Housekeeper Fang investigate, how is Qing Ling now, where the person is."

"Xiaode immediately go." Xiao Liu Zi got up from the ground, ran away in an instant.

Lou Xi Yan looked at Zhuo Qing, only saw her brows were deeply locked up, mistakenly thinking that she was anxious about her elder sister, lightly patting the back of her hand, comfortingly said: "Do not worry, you will surely have the news about your elder sister by tomorrow."

Besides nodding, Zhuo Qing also did not have any other way, in theory, if Lou Xi Yan could not find a person, it would be more impossible for her to find that person. Bowing her head to look at herself, this strange dress on her body, Zhuo Qing bitterly smiled and said: "What to do now?"

Lou Xi Yan's thin pupils lightly raised, lowly smiled and said: "I take you to experience Qiong Yue Imperial Palace's banquet, what do you say?" Qing Ling was nowhere to be found, he also could not let her get lost inside the palace, bringing her by his side was the best plan.

“Ah?” Zhuo Qing was startled, with regards to this so called banquet, she was never interested, ok..... Unfortunately, Lou Xi Yan was not really asking for her opinion, but hearing him swept a glance at the side of the Prime Minister manor’s Imperial bodyguard, towards the thinnest Imperial bodyguard, said: “Take off your clothes.”

“Yes.” That Imperial bodyguard did not even think of it, the movement was efficient to pull down the robe from his body, respectfully handed it over.

Strategically passing the clothes in to Zhuo Qing’s hand, Lou Xi Yan pulled her to the side of the chariot, smily said: “Go and change the clothes.”

Zhuo Qing helplessly climbed to enter the chariot, she also did not know what to do inside the palace, just went to experience this so called Imperial banquet, ok. Casually putting the clothes to cover her body, then removing the hat that made her unable to breath the air easily, Zhuo Qing climbed out of the chariot once again.

The clothes seemed to be a little big on her body, Lou Xi Yan had already pulled her sleeves of the garment, naturally helped her to roll the sleeves up. Mo Bai’s peaceful blue eyes showed a trace of peculiar, but very soon regained the serene.

Zhuo Qing’s long hair was originally rolled up in a bun, that hat was removed now, accompanied by an azure cheongsam, she looked more like an elegant youngster. Lou Xi Yan was satisfied and leaned on her side, lightly smiled and said: “You just need to be obedient by my side, less raising your head and it will be all right.” That pair of eyes of her, too clear, too clear, were not a servant’s eyes, as long as she did not look face to face at other people, it would be all right.

Zhuo Qing cried piteously, lowly mumbled in repetition and said: “I... will try to.” Recalling Xiao Liu Zi’s appearance a moment ago, Zhuo Qing resigned herself not to study for a life time, only.... Will try to, ok..... “Let us go.” Comparing to Zhuo Qing’s dispirited look, Lou Xi Yan seemed rather comfortable. Leading Zhuo Qing to walk towards the direction of the main hall, but he also would not think at this time, tonight would not be so tranquil.....

Sian's notes:

This was one of the funnier chapters also, especially when LXY asked her to call him Xi Yan and she called him Xiao Yan Yan instead... So cute... Also for those of you who would like to have this novel adapted into a drama, did you imagine the scene when ZQ jumped out of the chariot while LXY was shaking his head to watch her? Hahahaha.... I could picture that scene in my head!!! That would be hilarious...

We're finally getting to the Palace banquet. If you read book 3, you'll know what will happen in this banquet. But these whole events will be split out into a lot of chapters (up to chapter 50) so don't hold your breath too long.

# Record of Washed Grievances Chapter 37: Palace Banquet (Part 1)

This chapter was edited by Din2.

## Outside of Qian Yang Palace Hall

Zhuo Qing lowered her head, followed to the side of Lou Xi Yan's body, walked for no more than 10 minutes, just heard the lively confusing voices. Zhuo Qing raised her head to look, the palace lantern curled up not too far away, candle flame was brightly lit, a gorgeous magnificent main hall across from the eyes. This palace's floor area was very big, it felt like comparing to the Beijing Forbidden City's construction, it was even more magnificent, or rather, looking at the Forbidden City's was with the type of a tour's mentality, things changed with the passage of time, already realized it was not the same grandeur imperial household. Looking at the palace before her eyes now, palace maids, palace eunuchs, imperial bodyguards, cabinet ministers, everybody was so real, Zhuo Qing had a sense feeling of indescribable and dazzling.

Lou Xi Yan lightly held Zhuo Qing's hand, lowly asked: "What is wrong? Feeling unwell?"

Zhuo Qing shook her head, sighed and said: "No, just somewhat tired." Thinking back to herself during the time of the tour at Forbidden City, then looking at herself now, people's fate unexpectedly could be this bizarre to this extent!

Looking at her mood that was suddenly gloomy, her eyes displayed exhaustion, Lou Xi Yan softly said: "Very soon, after the banquet is done by half, we will leave."

Lou Xi Yan's tenderness was comforting, it made Zhuo Qing smiled, was not she always flexible in the past? This was already a fixed fact of a matter, still be melancholy for what?! Secretly breathing, Zhuo Qing effortlessly took a step forward, she was walking while saying: "I am fine, let us go, you do not need to

worry, I will remember to bow my head.”

Lou Xi Yan broke into laughter, he really should not let her to disguise as a chamberlain, because there was no chamberlain who would walk in front of the master! (Hahahaha...). She, would never learn how to act as a servant forever, there was no need to be either.

Both people were walking on the same direction and passing the main hall, there were already a lot of officials who gathered and came early, everyone was exchanging conventional greetings to each other. Catching sight of Lou Xi Yan who came, immediately letting out a path for him, continuously cupping their hands to give courtesy. Lou Xi Yan\_\_ nodded to return the greetings one after another, advancing to the gate of the palace hall, Zhuo Qing was always lowering her head, bowing to keep walking forward. Soon, one pair of pure black boots stopped in front of her eyes.

“General Su.” Lou Xi Yan’s distinctive and muffled voice that carried a smiling expression echoed.

“Prime Minister Lou.” A cold low sound that made people to tremble without any reason.

“General Su of the North returned, it could be said with high meritorious deed and hard work.” Lou Xi Yan and this black boots’ owner were chatting, Zhuo Qing’s eyes that were almost closed out, suddenly opened, General Su? The man who had the third Qing Family’s sister, Zhuo Qing could not help to raise her head, wanted to carefully look at this legend who was able to move unhindered into the six countries, the formidable general!

This man could not be regarded as handsome, burly physique and very tall, actually still taller than Lou Xi Yan by half a head, tanned skin, like satin black hair, the hair was half bundled wildly on the back of his head, no hat, also no hairpin. Sharp eyebrows, bright eyes like stars, stone carved liked face showed his bold personality, dressed in dark gray gown (chang pao), completely without ornament on his body. Taking part in this palace banquet, all of the Daren were dressed up meticulously compare to him, he simply looked like he did not come to attend the banquet. It was just that there were also some people on this earth, even if there was no magnificent clothing, people still did not dare to

ignore, that type was the one who endured the long battlefield, the bloody rain and foul wind (a reign of terror) that washed out the arrogant appearance, in what way could not be hidden in it.

Su Ling steadfast's face, did not have any expression, merely and voluntarily answered: "Prime Minister Lou is too modest, only Su mou's (again the same mou 某 that LXY called himself in the previous chapters) duty."

Only saying some words, he suddenly acutely looked towards Zhuo Qing's direction. Zhuo Qing was frightened, hurriedly lowered her head, oh no, she was already very low key to look at him, like this could also be discovered?

Up front, Lou Xi Yan's usually low voice echoed: "General Su, please."

Entering the place, only Lou Xi Yan and his Imperial bodyguards, nothing more, Su Ling coldly withdrew his line of sight, the same heart still lingered, he obviously sensed a peeping gaze just a moment ago, unfortunately had to make him dodged.

"Please." Accompanying Lou Xi Yan together, both people entered the inside of the palace hall.

Fortunately Lou Xi Yan obstructed her promptly, Zhuo Qing secretly relaxed a little, good sharp eyes, good compelling person with imposing manner. If Gu Yun was the third Qing Family's sister, meeting this person needed only one expression to sufficiently make a man's feeling trembled, in the end..... Heavens' blessing, ok!!

Lou Xi Yan and Su Ling entered the inside of the palace hall in succession, the civil and military officials also followed to enter after them. The entire Qian Yang's palace hall, palace maids, palace eunuchs were busy traveling back and forth. Two women who dressed up as palace maids, one was in front and the other was on the back, were hiding behind the outside palace hall near the big upright stone, throwing a look at the inside of the hall from time to time.

"Princess, we are not allowed to be in this occasion, you are still dressed up like this, if the Emperor blames her....." Princess Chao Yun's personal maid, Xiao Lian with a bitter face, looking at her own's dress that was the same as the Princess', her heart was in a mess. From afternoon up until now, she already spoke until her mouth was dry, Princess absolutely paid no attention to her, how

could this be good?!!

Yan Ru Xuan's gaze was only watching attentively at that direction near the main hall's gate where a disappearing tall silhouette was located, paying no attention, she said: "This many people at the palace banquet, Imperial Brother will absolutely pay no attention to me."

She just knew that Princess would talk like this, followed Princess' gaze to look, did not need to guess, also knew who she was looking at now. Xiao Lian's eyes were bright, whisperingly said: "Princess, it will be better to let this servant guards the outside of the palace hall, when Prime Minister Lou comes out after the end of the palace banquet, this servant will immediately invite him to go to Qing Xuan palace hall, you must not go in!" Was it not that Princess came just because of Prime Minister Daren, if only she could persuade this brat, what was she doing already!

Hardly covering up the melancholy in her eyes, Yan Ru Xuan stammered and answered: "If he agreed to go, he would already go earlier." It had already been a long time since he entered Qing Xuan palace hall, sometimes she really wanted to ask him why? Did he really dislike her this much? But when she was looking at his clear and cold eyes often, she could not ask the question, just afraid that she could not accept his answer.

Xiao Lian tightly pulled the corner of her lower clothing, Yan Ru Xuan was impatience, and said: "Fine, if you see afraid, just go back to the palace, ok."

Hearing Princess got angry with her idea, Xiao Lian hurriedly and lowly called out: "Princess said to go anywhere, this servant would also go anywhere!" She was the Princess' personal maid, if her Master had any mistake, where could she, this personal maid hide?!!

Feeling comforted with the nodding head, then grabbing Xiao Lian's hand, Yan Ru Xuan deeply breathed, said: "That is good, just go in now." She needed her to strengthen her courage!

Xiao Lian's heart cried piteously, but there was also no way, could only enter together with Princess into that crowded Qian Yang palace hall!

Two people pretended to be calmed to go along with the crowd to enter the inside of palace hall as palace maids, Xiao Lian pulled Yan Ru Xuan who finally

stood at the palace, glanced around properly for a moment. Xiao Lian's happy voice said softly: "Princess, you look, Prime Minister Lou is over there."

Facing the front of the main hall to look, Lou Xi Yan sat on the front table, he turned back to whisper to the Imperial bodyguards from time to time, his face still had that faint warm smile. She could not control her heart that was jumping wildly. Bowing her head to look at the wrist that had a glossy emerald green jade bracelet, Yan Ru Xuan nibbled her lips, raised her feet to walk over towards Lou Xi Yan's direction.

Fortunately, Xiao Lian's eyes quickly shifted, captured her hand, pleadingly said: "My good Princess, you just stay here to look, ok, you will be discovered if you step forward again!"

Struggling several times, Xiao Lian was not willing to let go, Yan Ru Xuan's face sank, coldly narrated: "Ben gong (similar to I for Imperial families) wants to say something to him, you wait here."

"Yes...." Princess was already so angry, fully aware that she herself could not persuade her, Xiao Lian only softly let go to release her hand.

Looking at Princess who was walking to the side of the palace to approach Lou Xi Yan all the way, beautiful silhouette as a precarious butterfly. Xiao Lian lowly sighed, Prime Minister Lou was just a lump of raging fire, Princess would still also throw herself at him.

Sian's note:

I'm actually kind of surprised with Su Ling's descriptions. I have never thought that he is not a handsome man by any mean. When I read the descriptions for the first time, I was like 'what?, he's actually not a good looking man'. hahaha...

# Record of Washed Grievances Chapter 38: Palace Banquet (Part 2)

This chapter was edited by Din2.

Entering the inside of the palace hall, it was indeed an eye opener for Zhuo Qing, the width of the palace hall was almost as big as a football field, the structure was entirely wooden, every pillar beam was at least more than one meter in diameter. The inside of the palace was divided into three layers, the middle of the main hall, a ten meters wide golden silk velvet carpet was laid directly from the gate of the palace hall to the highest layer. Dazzling of golden coloring, comparing it to a more common red carpet, she did not know how much more luxurious and impressive.

On the highest layer, the flowing golden seat, was embedded with dragon head, one look just knew that was the place where the Emperor would sit, the second layer stood ten red sandalwood essence carving of long tables. Both Lou Xi Yan and Su Ling walked to the second layer, both people were sitting on the left and right of the closest seats from the Dragon Throne, merely looking at these seats arrangement, one would know the height of the status. The third layer still probably had about 100 tables, but the person who was sitting at the most back table, it was reckoned that the Emperor would not know him..... Lou Xi Yan took a seat, Zhuo Qing stood behind him, because there was almost 20 meters in distance separating them, Zhuo Qing finally dared to look at that one sharp and dangerous General Su once again. It was rare to have the opportunity to see the important general in the ancient time, Zhuo Qing lowly exclaimed in admiration and said: "This General Su was really a well deserved reputation."

Lou Xi Yan did not turned around, lightly raised his eyebrows, smily said: "How can you be so sure?"

"He has a pair of firmed and dedicated eyes, can attack, retreat or defend attitudes, the type to conquer every charm." Maybe this was the one era that bestowed his charm, of course, Zhuo Qing did not say that last words.

Lou Xi Yan leisurely picked up the wine cup that was on the table, while drinking the wine quietly, he had a smile on his face, said: "Strictly speaking, you are very satisfied towards this younger sister's husband?"

Younger sister's husband? Zhuo Qing recovered, mockingly answered: "No, what I assessed was his status as a General, he was qualified or not qualified as a husband, I did not have the right to assess." She could not be this awesome, one glance could see whether one man was good or not, she could only say, his well-built physique would somewhat scare a person, could feel as long as a force, she would be able to be crushed by him~

'Husband', was it a Hao Yue's dialect? He faintly could guess the meaning of this word, Lou Xi Yan's hand held the wine cup, moved sideways to look towards Zhuo Qing, amusingly and interestingly asked: "Then what about me?" (See below note).

"What about you?" The rays of light in his eyes were somewhat strange, Zhuo Qing faintly felt it was fishy.... Sure enough, starting to play with the wine cup, Lou Xi Yan faintly smiled and asked: "As a Prime Minister, am I or am I not qualified? As... a husband, am I or am I not qualified?"

Lou Xi Yan's mouth asked consciously, his eyes were actually watching attentively at her eyes, tiny narrowed eyes of the slender pupils were moving, Zhuo Qing did not dare also was unwilling to guess the sentiment, face was somewhat warmed up indescribably, the always eloquent and fluent speaker like her unexpectedly did not know how to reply for a moment..... Being patience was always Lou Xi Yan's significant strong point, she did not say, he would never urgently question her intensely, merely like this serenely gazing at her. For Zhuo Qing, this time like this was a torture. Fortunately, heavens heard her request, one palace maid who was holding a tray on her hand slowly came over, she was half kneeling in front of Lou Xi Yan's long table.

Lou Xi Yan lightly raised his hand, said: "No need for you to serve, withdraw, ok." At the palace banquet, every table would have one palace maid to attend to serve wine and dishes, but he did not want to be disturbed today, who would have thought that not only the palace maid did not walk away, but she also unhurriedly poured another cup of wine for Lou Xi Yan. Lightly delivering the wine in front of Lou Xi Yan, the palace maid slowly raised her head, deeply

concerned, asked: "Is your health a little well?"

A woman gentle and soft's voice lightly echoed, Lou Xi Yan's brows unconsciously knitted, looked towards the side of the woman who dressed up as a palace maid, Lou Xi Yan deeply narrated to say: "Princess, you should not come here."

Originally rejoicing that she did not need to face Lou Xi Yan awkward's question, Zhuo Qing's heart suddenly startled, she stepped forward one step unconsciously. Peering at the woman's profile, long shape eyebrows with star looking eyes, pink face, water chestnut looking lips lightly pursed up, peaceful personality traits that made people very comfortable. Zhuo Qing lightly raised her eyebrows, it seemed that she was not the only one who came here with an unusual clothing tonight, Lou Xi Yan's charm was not small!

Feeling herself that standing to eavesdrop other people's conversations was very boring, Zhuo Qing turned around to retreat to Mo Bai's side, borrowing his tall silhouette to shelter her. Zhuo Qing lazily leaned along side the pillar to yawn, her gaze was kept away deliberately from Lou Xi Yan who was in front. There were already a lot of people inside the palace hall, but the people who could go to the second layer platform were still only a few. The three tables next to Su Ling were still empty, the last person who was sitting quietly on the table, did not exchange any conventional greeting with the officials. Zhuo Qing curiously looked at him, this person seemed to look very familiar, it seemed to be that Criminal Prison Division, Dan Yu Lan, right. He could sit on that table, so his official post was not low at all.

Lou Xi Yan somewhat clear and indifference's voice made Yan Ru Xuan's heart somewhat hurt, pressing down her heart's grievance, Yan Ru Xuan quietly answered: "I heard that you fell ill, I was very anxious and wanted to visit you, but Imperial Mother would not allow me to go out of the palace constantly."

"This official is already alright, nothing major, Princess does not need to take a lot of trouble over it." Looking at Zhuo Qing retreated to Mo Bai's side, Lou Xi Yan was speechless now, did not know the feeling in his heart, she was so 'thoughtful', why did his heart feel uneasy? Could it be that he was hoping that she would do anything?! His mood was somewhat unrest, but he would never let anybody easily guess what was in his mind.

Lightly lifting her hand up, wrist had a shiny and dazzling green jade bracelet, Yan Ru Xuan's heart was beating a small drum, with great expectation, she asked: "Did you personally choose this bracelet?" He sent people to get a long hairpin from Zi Jin last year, she was ecstatic, would wear it everyday. She found out later, that he actually let his housekeeper to choose it, since then she had not worn that long hairpin anymore.

As it turned out, Jing Sa gave this bracelet, how he could be so careless to give this personal thing! Facing Yan Ru Xuan's hoping eyes, Lou Xi Yan only mildly laughed and asked: "Does Princess like it?"

"I like everything that you give me." She did not care what he gave her, but she only cared whether or not it was him who considered and prepared it for her!

"It is good that you like it, the palace banquet will start soon, Princess needs to go back now."

Lou Xi Yan's skimpy answer made Yan Ru Xuan's complexion dark and gloomy, smart as she was, how could she not know, he did not choose this bracelet! What did she insist on at the end? Suddenly, finding how ridiculous her own self, Yan Ru Xuan left with extremely dejected face, a resounding sound from far and near echoed at the same time: "The Emperor arrived! The Empress arrived!"

The original main hall that was still in a mess, was quiet in a split second, no matter what anybody was doing before, all of the people bowed down in courtesy. Except for the Officials who were sitting on the second layer and the military leaders who were guarding the palace could do half kneeling, the rest of the people had to crawl on the ground without exception, Zhuo Qing had not reacted yet when Mo Bai already pulled her to half kneeling on the ground. The only one who was standing inside the palace, was Yan Ru Xuan with a distracted look.

Lou Xi Yan's expression was dark, pulled Yan Ru Xuan's hand, pulled her to his side, at the same time, The Emperor and Empress' silhouettes also appeared at the entrance of the main hall.

Sian's notes:

That paragraphs that talked about 'husband' confused me a little. It took quite a

back & forth texts from Din2 during editing to understand it so I thought that you all may be confused reading it too. Two paragraphs before, ZQ was saying that SL was as good as his famous reputation. Then LXY mentioned that she approved of him to be her younger sister's husband (妹夫-mei fu). But ZQ was actually talking about SL as a general not as a husband (丈夫-zhang fu). LXY didn't mention zhang fu & apparently, husband wasn't called zhang fu in the ancient times so that was why LXY was asking in his own heart if zhang fu was 'husband' and also was wondering if zhang fu was actually Hao Yue's dialect. Chinese language has a lot of dialects as some of you may already know it. What LXY didn't know was that zhang fu wasn't Hao Yue's dialect but it was modern words for husband. Hehehe... I think husband was called 夫君-fu jun in the ancient times but don't quote me on this though. I hope the explanation makes sense.

# Record of Washed Grievances Chapter 39: Palace Banquet (Part 3)

This chapter was edited by Din2.

“Long live, long live, long, long live, The Emperor!” Resounding sounds throughout the main hall were shouting to the Emperor and Empress once they entered at that moment, Zhuo Qing slightly raised her head, narrowed her eyes to look. Yan Hong Tian wore a bright yellow silk robe with a white jade belt on his waist, his head wore a dark gold and jade hat, cold eyes were still threatening, matching up with the whole body’s outfits, excessively could shake people not to dare to look straight at. In reality, besides Zhuo Qing’s peeping, indeed there was nobody who dared to raised their heads. The Empress seemed to be really young, about 20 years old, a gold hairpin and jade pendant on her bun hair. She wore a dark red flowery meandering dress, embroidered skirt with peony tree design that was weighing down to the ground, setting her off to look dignified and luxurious, but the respected status as her, could only follow closely at the Emperor’s side, but could not be side by side with him all along.

Zhuo Qing secretly sighed, she finally understood, why the sovereign kings in the ancient times were very much believed in themselves to be the Son of Heaven, so very easy to change an incapable ruler, to have all of the people crawled at your feet all the time, who could still remember what kind of a person was oneself, only a few?!

Yan Ru Xuan’s dazzlingly starred at her own hand, face was burning hot, almost roasting, thundering heartbeats, all of the voices could not enter her ears, she could only hear her own thumping sound heartbeat. He unexpectedly took the initiative to pull her hand a moment ago, although it was only for a brief moment, but she could finally feel his slightly cold fingertips gently held her wrist with gentle strength. Somewhat raising her head to look at that fair handsome face by her side, Yan Ru Xuan knew, no matter how much desperation and hurt he gave her, she could not let go of him because it was already a long long time

ago, her heart and her eyes could not allow any other man any longer, except for him.

According to his eyesights, he naturally was looking clearly at that palace maid who was exactly Princess Chao Yun, Su Ling's cold pupils flashed through a touch of disgust. A woman was sure enough just an annoying person, a married woman would be unable to make sense of a situation, unable to see clearly any circumstance forever.

In between each silent curse, Yan Hong Tian already walked to the highest layer of the platform, sat down on the Dragon Throne, the Empress sat by his right side. Yan Hong Tian calmly raised both of his hands, clearly narrated: "All of the high ranking officials, you may rise."

"Thank you, His Majesty." (The actual words here were 圣上-sheng shang, it was ministers' form of address for the current emperor). Again to be adjusted uniformly, just like a drill that had to be responded countless of times afterwards, each one of the cabinet ministers sat properly.

Finally able to stand straightly, Zhuo Qing gloomily kneaded her knees gently, Mo Bai suddenly pulled her a moment ago, she reckoned that her knees would be greenish black. Only thinking, Mo Bai's cold line of sight left her hand, Zhuo Qing curled her lips, embarrassedly stood properly.

"Bei Qi's diplomatic envoys ask to have an audience." The ceremony government official shouted in a loud voice once again, three people's shadows walked slowly to come from the end of the golden color rug, two men and one woman.

All three people were wearing splendid clothes, the tall and thin man stood in front, the relatively sturdy man stood behind him, but the one who attracted Zhuo Qing's line of sight was that woman. She was absolutely the one person who would not let people to ignore her great beauty, not to say that her facial features had so much exquisite, rather that ostentatiously display of her energetic look, looked as if it was a painting, eyes liked limpid autumn waters (description of the girl's beautiful eyes), wondered around, and drew people to enquire into.

"Qiong Emperor, may you have a long good fortune." The three people half

kneeled to give courtesy.

Yan Hong Tian's clear voice answered: "You may rise, granting you to take the seats."

"Thank you, Qiong Emperor."

The three people sat down on their seats, they were actually sitting at the three long empty tables next to Su Ling, the meager man slightly cupped his hand towards Su Ling, Su Ling still had that cold face, only slightly nodded to return the greeting. Su Ling's somewhat rude response, but the man paid no attention at all, gracefully sat down.

Yan Hong Tian's loud and clear voice echoed once again: "Several of you who came from afar, first taste Qiong Yue's distinctive Aquilaria tree wine, bestow the wine."

"Thank you, Qiong Emperor for the reward."

Three people who wore blue clothings' of the palace maids were offering the wine pot, walking beside the long table, half kneeling as they poured the wine.

Sure enough, not only in the ancient times or the modern times, the banquet was this boring and tedious forever. The difference was, at the very least, she could still sit and eat before, if she wanted to go, she could just go, she could only stand now.... Zhuo Qing boringly yawned, her gaze swept across a palace maid, Zhuo Qing breathed fearfully, that woman who poured the wine for the Princess, her face unexpectedly also had two distinct scars from a knife wound, the same on the right cheek. She, could or could not be Qing Ling?!

Paying attention to that palace maid, naturally not only Zhuo Qing, Lou Xi Yan's eyes also showed a touch of surprise, that woman should be Qing Ling, right. No matter what, she and Feng-er's body shapes and appearances looked a lot alike, the difference was Feng-er's eyes displayed a proudly clear cold radiance, and her eyes were full of cold desperation and apathetic to ignore.

However, why would she be at the banquet, even more to let her serve Qi Princess? Was the Emperor's purpose to humiliate her? Lou Xi Yan secretly looked a glance at Yan Hong Tian, from his eyes, Lou Xi Yan also saw an astonished look. It seemed that he did not arrange it, in that way, the only

person who could arrange this was the Empress.

The matter in the harem, he should not care about it, there was no big movement where Qing Feng was standing either, Lou Xi Yan lightly covered up the ray of his eyes, was still watching for that change.

Perhaps, it was Zhuo Qing's excessively blazing expression, or maybe because of the so called interlinked hearts, the palace maid suddenly lifted her head, met by Zhuo Qing's line of sight all together.

Seeing clearly Zhuo Qing's face, the woman's pair of eyes swiftly opened widely, the hand that was holding the wine pot was almost unstable. Looking at her facial expression, Zhuo Qing actually cooled down in her mind, she, should be Qing Ling, but absolutely was not Gu Yun. If she was Gu Yun, she would not recognize the change in herself that was beyond recognition, the calm's Gu Yun would also not show this much excitement, made people see her thought.

Zhuo Qing disappointedly withdrew her line of sight, the woman also realized suddenly that she lost her own control excessively, lowered her head, but slightly moved her shoulder up and down, could still see how her mood was moved emotionally.

The three people drank the cup of wine, Bei Qi's third Prince, Xu Xun Si respectfully laughed and said: "As expected, it is a good wine! Strong aromatic, mellow and rich, soft and smooth inside the mouth. Bei Qi's delegations come to make customary deferences this time, so that we can experience Qiong Yue's powerful and magnificent of the dominant country's paragon. We wish to be able to use this opportunity to express that our country will acknowledge allegiance towards Qiong Yue."

Yan Hong Tian slowly nodded, a clear understanding manner, his mouth also cordially answered: "Bei Qi is Qiong Yue's neighboring country, both countries will intercommunicate diplomatically, many dealings certainly are good actions. Third Prince, since you have already arrived in Qiong Yue, there is no harm to tour, Qiong Yue still has somewhat beautiful scenery."

Yan Hong Tian, originally did not want to answer the topic of his discussion, Xu Xun Si's heart already understood it clearly, he was not fond to form an alliance. Following his words, Xu Xun Si laughingly said: "Thank you for Qiong Emperor's

good thought, Qiong Yue's geographical area is vast, elegant folk songs, naturally nothing is more beautiful that can be imagined. This time, Seventh Princess also specifically prepares for a flowing sleeve dance to wish Qiong Yue's prosperous, and hopes that both countries will bond as friendly allies for all ages."

"Oh?" How quick did they use the honey trap? (Using a beautiful woman to try to accomplish one's goal. In this particular story, Bei Qi is trying to use the 7th Princess' dancing & beauty to entrap YHT). Yan Hong Tian's eyes lightly raised, laugh heartily and said: "Always hear that Seventh Princess' dancing skill is extraordinary, Zhen will enjoy it properly today."

"Yan Yun was incompetence." The woman's natural and unrestrained conduct, gracefully got up to walk towards the middle of the long golden rug. Facing to look at Yan Hong Tian, but she did not start to dance yet, she unexpectedly.... lightly pulled her belt! Zhuo Qing was startled, this Princess was also extremely daring, ok? In front of everyone, she undressed.... Her dance could not be a striptease dance, right.....

# Record of Washed Grievances Chapter 40: Palace Banquet (Part 4)

Sorry guys, no striptease... But very close in a different way.

This chapter was edited by Din2.

If it was a striptease dance, she would be interested to take a look at, Zhuo Qing was staring at the golden rug attentively and excitedly. Slowly taking off the belt, right after pulling the beautiful woman's own robe, following her movement, the gorgeous outer clothing quietly sliding off to expose the crimson translucent silk skirt inside, the light clothing was not only graceful and enchanting, it was even showing more of her voluptuous figure before everyone's eyes.

The woman stylishly walked to the middle area, clear and bright's voice with a smiling expression, said: "Musician, please play one tune of music, only require a drum sound, the rest of the musical instruments can be excused."

Facing Yan Hong Tian to give a courtesy, the woman took out one colorful red ribbons from the inside of her sleeve and held it in her hand, it extended to approximately one meter long, but the ribbon was extremely thin.

Zhuo Qing was somewhat curious, the ribbon was thin, if she wanted to wave it, it would be harder, this woman looked weak, could she really wave it?

Zhuo Qing was still thinking, following the musician's tone of the drum sound, the woman softly jumped, the silk ribbon that was on her hand took a life on its own, suddenly fluttering to rise, following the beats of the drum. With her bright, beautiful and quick witted as if the same as a cat like coquettish glances towards Yan Hong Tian from time to time, the exquisite twisting of her body as if it was a snake. The long ribbon that was on her hand moved along with the drum beats gracefully, especially every time she jumped and whirled, all were stamping on the drum beats. Merely with a single drum tone, she could already display the state of dance like this, not only it did not appear monotonous, on the contrary,

it was beautified by many.

The admiration sigh sounds started to be heard in all around the corners again and again, Zhuo Qing could not help to say that in her eyes, this woman was absolutely the best in this earth. Alluring figure and the sound of the drum were very clever to combine together, each bursting sound was heard, that red captivating silk satin seemed to also be in a tangle with your heart at the same time. Softly tickling, could not say if the men would spurt their blood vessels when they watched her, she even had some difficulty breathing, this dance was absolutely more blunt than a striptease dancing on the tall pole by a lot.

Zhuo Qing looked onward to Lou Xi Yan's direction, could only see his meager's back, could not see clearly his facial expression. Directly in front, Su Ling was still as before with his stubborn cold face, icily arrogant eyes only watched at the wine on his hand, apparently it was more fascinating than any beauty.

Again, looking towards the highest position, Yan Hong Tian, he was actually staring fixedly at the beauty, not letting go, it was a pity that his eyes were only seeing her as a type of prey that pondered his interest, also, would he look less at a woman who was acting as a 'gift'?! Zhuo Qing secretly sighed, it was really a pity for this great beauty..... One strong drum beat at the end, the woman suddenly laid down on the ground swiftly with a 'bang' sound. Everyone in the main hall was holding their breaths to watch attentively at that beautiful image who was on the ground.

It looked fishy, her dance was extremely quick witted a moment ago, the style of this final dancing conclusion should not lose the original standard! Zhuo Qing straightened up her body, quietly narrowed her eyes slightly, secretly observed the woman's every movement, the woman had not gotten up after a long time, the sound of the discussions from the cabinet ministers started to be heard quietly.

Xu Yan Yun was motionless for a very long time, Xu Xun Si could not help but to step forward in the end, lowly called out at her side: "Seventh sister?"

Xu Yan Yun did not have any response, Xu Xun Si lightly supported her, she was still softly laid down on his embrace, Xu Xun Si knitted his eyebrows tightly, gently patting her cheeks. He was about to call her, but it appeared that Xu Yan

Yun suddenly twitched up, hands and feet were stiffed, her complexion that was originally flushed turned into a faint purple color. Clearly having a difficulty breathing, Xu Xun Si was panicky, hurriedly said: “Seventh sister, what is wrong with you?”

Xu Yan Yun was not able to respond to him, her eyes were suddenly opened big, the original bright eyes looked lost, her bloodshot eyes were filled with obvious fear. The stiffed hands rigidly grabbed her own throat, her two legs unconsciously were struggling.... Zhuo Qing was fearful, did she originally have any illness? This did not look like any disease that flared up, it looked like—poisoning.

“Seventh sister!”

Finally, Xu Yan Yun did not move, her pair of eyes were widely open staring ahead. Everything happened extremely quick, everyone in the main hall did not have any reaction.

“Imperial Physician, diagnose the Seventh Princess.” Yan Hong Tian slightly cold’s voice echoed heavily, could not clearly see the mood on his face at this moment.

“Yes.” Two Imperial Physicians hurriedly ran over, took Xu Yan Yun’s pulse, the original serene face suddenly changed into a heavy one, cautiously feeling the pulse for a long time, finally released the hand. Facing the back of the other Imperial Physician, he lowly mumbled a few sentences, that Imperial Physician immediately felt the pulse, for a long time afterwards, both of them looked at each other for one glance, each did not dare to say anything.

Looking at their facial expressions, Xu Xun Si already felt that something was not right, hurriedly said: “What is wrong with her?!”

“Seventh Princess, she.....” Both of them swallowed salivas, cold sweat flowed directly.

“Say it!” Yan Hong Tian lowly roared, both of the Imperial Physicians immediately threw themselves on the ground, tremblingly answered: “Already took her one last breath and died.”

The main hall was in commotion.

“Absolutely disgraceful!” Yan Hong Tian angrily threw down the wine cup on the ground, the inside of the palace hall was in absolute silence immediately.

Tightly holding the woman on his bosom, Xu Xun Si apparently still could not be calmed down, staring at the Imperial Physicians, intensely questioned: “This was impossible, Seventh sister had practiced dance since young, her body was always very good, how was it possible that she suddenly took her one last breath and died?”

The Imperial Physicians also did not dare to raise their heads, only shivering for a long time, finally answered: “Seventh Princess was.... poisoned to die.”

Poisoned to die? The voices echoed one more time, but nobody dared to speak, after all, one country’s Princess died in the main hall from poisoning, this really was..... Xu Xun Si raised his eyes to look one glance at Yan Hong Tian, covering up the rays on his eyes, with heavy sound answered: “This should be... even more impossible, right.”

His eyes flashed through a trace of anger, Yan Hong Tian’s cold voice asked: “Seventh Princess died due to what poison?”

“This....”

Unable to tolerate the look at the image of the people who were curling up on the ground, Yan Hong Tian’s cold voice lowly said: “What are you humming and hawing for, just say it.” Really a bunch of useless people. His magnificent and powerful country, could it still be that he had to lose face in front of these foreigners!?

Both of them looked towards each other, nevertheless, did not dare to reply, could only crawl deeper on the ground, their foreheads were covered by beads of sweats, they absolutely did not dare to say what kind of poison ah.

# Record of Washed Grievances Chapter 41: Palace Banquet (Part 5)

Home with a sick kid on her last day of school so I'm posting this a few hours earlier. Another loooong chapter... Over 2,500 words.

This chapter was edited by Din2.

Lou Xi Yan and Su Ling who sat across from each other looked face to face one glance, each did not turn his line of sight, each was calmly waiting to see, because at this moment, the Head of Criminal Prison Division's Dan Yu Lan already got up to move towards the Seventh Princess who was on the ground.

The Imperial Physicians were frightened and could not speak, the group of state officials kept silent. Yan Hong Tian was just about to get angry, Dan Yu Lan's clear and steady voice echoed timely: "Before Princess died, the four limbs of the body, jaw, breathing, were firmly obstructed, her complexion was dark purple color, her pair of eyes protruded after death, her four limbs were stiffed and cold, so she should be infected by a snake venom. What kind of snake venom could be effective in this short time, only the 'red scarlet worm'.

So it was really poisoning, looking at the expression of the deceased that manifested in this state, Zhuo Qing was also judging like this, but the little thing that she understood was, there were many deadly venom's cases, but the one that resembled the Seventh Princess' quick flared up was rare, or was it possible that she was already poisoned before coming here? Also impossible, when she was dancing, it was completely normal.

Zhuo Qing sank into her own pondering, the group of state officials who were near Dan Yu Lan spoke out 'red scarlet worm', after several moment, there was another uproar, Zhuo Qing secretly thought about what was the red scarlet worm's venom?

"Official Dan, Bei Qi's Princess died in the main hall of my Qiong Yue, this was not a small thing, must not comment easily! This case will be handed over to you

to investigate fully, must find the real cause of death and murderer.” Because Dan Yu Lan reported the name of the venom, Yan Hong Tian’s voice, even though still maintained a country monarch’s dignity like before, his complexion was also dark for a moment.

Half kneeling on the ground, Dan Yu Lan loudly answered: “Chen receives the Imperial decree.”

All along, the corpse was still tightly held on Xu Xun Si’s bosom, he appeared to regain some rationality, his young face was in the capacity of the son of a country’s King so he should have some dignity. Raising his head to look straight at the high position of Yan Hong Tian, coldly narrated: “If I am not mistaken, the red scarlet worm was a distinctive venom from Qiong Yue, Seventh sister died tragically at the main hall of Qiong Yue now, Bei Qi, courteously asked Qiong’s Emperor to give us one statement. Official Dan will investigate this case personally, Xu Xun Si does not have any objection, but hoping that Official Dan can investigate the case in my presence.”

“Granted!” This matter was already like this, this request could not be regarded as excessive. After all, no matter what, the Princess died at the palace hall, that was already a fact.

“In this main hall, where did the poison snake come?! The Princess was still well a moment ago, only drank one cup of wine, maybe the wine was poisonous!” A rough voice echoed in this spacious main hall, unexpectedly could also hurt people’s ears because this voice was so loud.

Everyone was facing to look at the person who just talked, it was another Bei Qi’s envoy, General Hu Zhang Yu’s eldest son, Hu Xi Ang. His body shape was as rough as his voice, his hand was holding Princess’ wine pot, mutually communicating with Xu Xun Si who was trying to control his emotion, his face showed anger that could not be concealed.

Dan Yu Lan walked over towards him, seized the wine pot that was on his hand, he muttered a few sentences towards the chamberlain who was next to him afterwards, the chamberlain hurriedly ran out.

Zhuo Qing used her shoulder lightly to bump into Mo Bai, lowly asked: “What is this thing, red scarlet worm?”

Mo Bai originally did not want to pay attention to her, but looking at her for one glance, only saw her eyes were radiant, staring at the woman's corpse on the ground, she was usually somewhat different. Mo Bai was silent for a moment, finally he lowered his voice to answer: "Red scarlet worm is Qiong Yue's northwestern specific type of viper, because its body is small, a little thinner than a finger, the length is no more than two chi (one chi equals to 1/3 of a meter so this snake is not quite one meter length), so the local people call it a worm. This type of snake lives in the underground drain stones, extremely wet and extremely cold ground, only comes out at night time, will not see the sunshine all year around, its entire body is scarlet red, the toxicity is extremely strong, if it bites, you will immediately get killed, even if it only touches or mistakenly uses its venom, you will also die certainly and undoubtedly."

Touching it could also die certainly and undoubtedly? Zhuo Qing was frightened, looking at Mo Bai, urgently said: "If the hands do not have any wound, touching its venom will also be poisoned."

Mo Bai did not say anything, only coldly nodded his head.

Very powerful venom, the same snake venom was a neurotoxin (substances that are poisonous to the nerve tissues), or blood circulation poison (blood poisoning), another powerful thing was both types contained their own, but touching to the skin could be poisoned, was there also corrosion osmosis!? Zhuo Qing secretly felt a pity, this era did not have the equipment to examine the venom, otherwise she could research it carefully!

Not knowing whether or not Dan Yu Lan had any trick, Zhuo Qing raised her head to look towards the opposite of Dan Yu Lan.

The chamberlain brought in a white porcelain dish, also a silver needle with approximately more than 10 cm in length.

Only seeing that he put the wine pot inside the small dish, originally, the wine should be pure like floating faint red color, but she did not see the pure wine color inside of the greenish cup, the hand that was holding a silver needle put it in the small dish, the silver needle was submerged in the wine and it immediately changed to black color. Dan Yu Lan took out the silver needle, used a plain white cloth to wipe it clean afterwards, the silver needle was still black as before.

Zhuo Qing slightly frowned, could be sure that the poison contained a heavy toxic sulfide, the silver would turn black, besides this, what more components were there?! Zhuo Qing continued to look down, but unfortunately, Dan Yu Lan did not make any other movement.

Hu Xi Ang was already impatient, urgently asked: "Was the wine poison or not?!"

Collecting the silver needle, Dan Yu Lan did not try to justify anything, realistically said: "The silver needle was black, the wine was slightly red, smelled fishy, the wine really contained red scarlet worm's poison."

Zhuo Qing looked towards this one side again at the Criminal Prison Division, this very unique person, red scarlet worm was obviously Qiong Yue's distinctive poison, why was he able to answer so calmly, did not see that the two Imperial Physicians were still trembling now! He could not really be this honest ah, or he had extreme confidence in himself to be able to resolve this current's crisis by himself?

Hearing one sentence from Dan Yu Lan that the wine was definitely poisonous, Hu Xi Ang violently roared one more time and loudly said: "Then surely there was someone who put the poison inside the wine! You all hand over that person to come out!"

Hu Xi Ang was so presumptuous, Yan Hong Tian could very much put him in prison, but what should he do at this time, would it not be more disgraceful national news to bully and humiliate a small country, if it was spread out, how could he still confront the other six countries?! Yan Hong Tian's complexion got darker and darker, similar to the prelude of the rainstorm, the main hall sank into silence once again.

A clear, bright and gentle voice of a woman softly echoed, dissolving a trace of heavy atmosphere that made people to choke: "At the palace banquet, the wine was unexpectedly poisoned by someone, it was Ben gong's negligence, Head Housekeeper Wu, bring the servant who touched the Princess' wine pot to come up to Ben gong."

This kind of situation, originally, the Empress should not speak, but as a mother of the country, the matter happened inside the woman's palace, if she

talked for a few sentences was also ok, her appearance was just in time to ease the atmosphere.

“Yes.” Looking one glance at the Emperor’s facial expression, he did not stop it, Wu Rong immediately turned around to leave.

Zhuo Qing secretly shouted ‘rotten’, Qing Ling was the one who poured the wine for the Princess ah!

Sure enough, several Imperial bodyguards pushed down three servants to the front of the palace hall, Qing Ling was also pushed to kneel down on the ground, the three servants were already frightened beyond recognition, laying on the floor repeatedly shouting: “The Queen Empress, save our lives ah, these servants were only responsible to allocate the wine to be put inside the pot, also did not know which wine pot would be given to the Princess, even if these servants were given one hundred courages, these servants would also not dare to put poison ah.”

Comparing the manner of the three servants who kissed up to beg for forgiveness, Qing Ling was kneeling straightforwardly, did not even say one word, her face was completely expressionless and cold.

The Empress slightly narrowed her eyes, looking towards Qing Ling, coldly narrated: “Qing Ling, you were the woman whom Hao Yue’s delivered as a present to enter the palace, now was demoted to be a palace maid. Did you or did you not harbor a grudge in your heart to poison Bei Qi’s Princess, or was it Hao Yue’s country who prompted you to put the poison and conspired to kill Bei Qi’s Princess, to instigate the relationship between Qiong Yue and Bei Qi?!”

Still lowering her head, Qing Ling only coldly spit out three words: “I did not.”

“You attempted to assassinate the Emperor last night, still dared to say that you did not have any evil intention?! Ben gong would give you this one opportunity, whatever you did, you should confess truthfully, Ben gong would exempt you from receiving any physical pain!”

She was always under the impression that her sisters had already died, and she was alone in this earth, what was the meaning of living also, speaking of death for her was a type of freedom, but she saw her today. She simply would not let the Empress to push the accusation to her, otherwise would surely harm them,

also would harm the innocent people in Hao Yue!

For a very long time, Qing Ling finally and slowly lifted up her head, looking towards the higher up, pretending to be a woman who actually gave in for a false mercy that made people feel nauseating, with a trace of sarcastic smile, Qing Ling loudly answered: "I was not careful to smash a flower vase last night, cut the Emperor, did not fulfill and attend to my duty, the Emperor was angry, demoted me to be a palace maid. And I would stand here and serve to pour wine to Bei Qi's Princess today, it was entirely from the Queen Empress' order, I did not know anything before the event, if you were saying that I put the poison, then it was also the Queen Empress' arrangement." (Hahahaha... Gotta love the real Qing Feng also ).

"Presumptuous!" The Empress' complexion changed greatly, originally still wanted to use affable voice, but this time was abnormally ear piercing: "Sharp teeth, sharp mouth, spouting nonsense, it seems that if I do not use torture, you will not speak the truth!!"

The Empress' voice was trailing off, the Imperial bodyguards who were standing on the side already went up, pushed the unwavering Qing Ling to the ground.

Zhuo Qing's heart was tightened, she could still cheer Qing Ling's quick witted answer a moment ago, she was anxious because of her now. Looking towards Yan Hong Tian, he was still expressionless as before, did not even show Qing Ling a little bit pity, right, the Empress could also be regarded as helping him one great favor. Qing Ling was Hao Yue's person, if everything could be pushed to Qing Ling, it was just perfect, everything was unrelated to Qiong Yue! If Bei Qi wanted to look for somebody to calculate the debt, could also look for Hao Yue!

But could she really able to let them impose this groundless accusation to her?! Looking at her being beaten? Could not! There was one continuous voice in her heart, the brain was clamoring, maybe it was the calling out from the bloodline, maybe it was Zhuo Qing's own conscious that would not allow it, in short, Zhuo Qing knew that she could not watch with folded arms (she could not stand idly without doing anything).

Sian's notes:

Remember in chapter 15, I explained about this ti dian xing yu si (提点刑狱司) that I translated as Criminal Prison Division. The head of this division, Dan Yu Lan is back in this chapter. For consistency, I'm also using "Official Dan" whenever the other state officials call him. The actual words for his title is 'Dan ti xing' – (单提刑). 提 (to carry) and 刑 (punishment).

One more thing about Dan Yu Lan's name. His last name is using this 单 character. Originally I used Shan as his last name as my dictionary showed that 单's character for a last name was Shan. However this same character can also mean single, only, sole, *etc.* When this character is used other than for a last name, the pinyin word will be Dan instead of Shan. When I was reading book 3, Zazajunie actually used Dan as his last name so I asked her if his last name was Dan or Shan. She said it should be Dan. I also asked my other Chinese friend about this character and she confirmed that it should be Dan. So I decided to change his last name from Shan to Dan before I posted the chapters back then. I noticed though that the other two translators of this book were actually using Shan as his last name. I found it very interesting that this one character could be written differently in pinyin.

I was going to keep the poison's name as 'chi huan si chong' instead of translating it to 'red scarlet worm' but decided that it would be easier to use red scarlet worm. The actual words are 赤寰丝虫.

# Record of Washed Grievances Chapter 42: Palace Banquet (Part 6)

This chapter was edited by Din2.

Two tall and strong Imperial bodyguards crudely pushed Qing Ling to the ground, her slender arms nearly snapped off, Qing Ling tightly clenched her teeth, her thin and weak body shrank into a small circle, but refused to beg for forgiveness, with a trace of hoarse and cold voice, shouted: "I did not put the poison."

She could not and also would not admit, even if her arms were twisted or broken, she would also not admit!!

The pain made her already white face even paler, the water chestnut looking lips that were tightly bitten, were already bloody.

Looking at the stubbornly humiliated and forbearing persistent's woman who was on the ground, Zhuo Qing's eyes had traces of distressed, but her foot only moved one step. By her side, Mo Bai who appeared to completely ignore her, beat her quicker to move and block in front of her body.

Zhuo Qing's footsteps were blocked, moved towards the left side a little, as if Mo Bai's back had eyes, quickly moved his silhouette to stop her way once again. Several times afterwards, Zhuo Qing was also angry, just about to use her hands to push Mo Bai away, but Lou Xi Yan who was always sitting on his seat as steady as the Tai mountain (this is an idiom meaning that he was sitting without moving) suddenly turned his head.

Facing his serene and peaceful eyes over Mo Bai's shoulder, Lou Xi Yan's eyes deeply looking at her, he shook his head unobtrusively and lightly. Looking inside that pair of slender eyes, Zhuo Qing saw the kind of calm and reassuring strength. Zhuo Qing finally stopped her footsteps because of this kind of strength, slowly leaned against the back of the pillar again. Her heart was somewhat at a loss and suspicious at this moment, she was because of these

expression, unexpectedly was convinced that he would handle this matter properly for her.

Yan Ru Xuan was always tightly pulling the corner of her own skirt, she had never thought that she would see this kind of scene. Just a moment ago, a still living person suddenly just died in front of her, she was really panicky, really wanted to shriek, but because there was him beside her, even though she still could not control her body not to tremble, Yan Ru Xuan's heart did not have too much fear.

But what did Yan Gege look at? And he also only looked one glance, his head turned back once again, Yan Ru Xuan raised her eyes to look, only saw Yan Gege's personal Imperial bodyguard, nothing more. Hurriedly lowering her head again, she did not dare to look at the pair of eyes from the corpse's opened eyes inside the main hall, it was too scary!!

Here, the expression was flowing together, dark storm was rushing forth, over there, it was already an overflowing raging sky. Obviously it was only a lowly servant, still with an aloof and unyielding manner, the Empress lowly snorted, shouted: "I want to see until when you can be reluctant to admit a mistake! Someone comes!"

Three palace eunuchs who appeared to look like men immediately stepped forward to obey the order, Zhuo Qing's heart was trembling with fear once again, fortunately Lou Xi Yan did not make her disappointed, his meager silhouette slowly stood up, a low kind of voice that was not in a hurry nor slow, echoed: "The Queen Empress, please calm down, do not get angry because of one palace maid. It would be better to hold the person and give her to Official Dan, let him investigate the case, also as to avoid of getting you injure by getting angry."

One could almost give a lesson to this arrogant woman properly, the Empress' expression was clearly dark, in the civil and military in the Imperial palace, she could not offend two people, one was Lou Xi Yan, and the other was Su Ling! Lou Xi Yan already spoke, she had no choice but to honor his reputation, secretly clenched her teeth, the Empress gracefully nodded her head and answered: "Still Prime Minister Lou who is thinking considerately, then this person will be handed over to Dan Yu Lan, ok."

Lou Xi Yan peacefully sat down, with an unimportant's manner, Dan Yu Lan could only step forward one step, cupped his hands and answered: "This small official will surely investigate this case fully."

Prime Minister Lou was worthy to be called Prime Minister Lou, logically handed this terrible mess to give him at the end! "Someone comes, detain them to the side first."

Qing Ling was pulled up by several palace eunuchs together, pushed to the side of the main hall. Qing Ling finally had the opportunity to look clearly at Lou Xi Yan's appearance, sure enough, great handsome and bright man, impressive appearance. Qing Ling finally gratifyingly smiled, she was following him, so she would not suffer any hardship, right!

Dan Yu Lan did not bring the suspect for an interrogation, but straightforwardly went to the direction where the body of the Seventh Princess who was still laying down on Xu Xun Si's bosom, slightly bowed to give a courtesy, softly said: "Seventh Princess, I apologize for offending you."

Pushing Dan Yu Lan's stretching hand, Xu Xun Si expelled his breath and said: "What do you want to do?"

Withdrawing his hand, Dan Yu Lan explained: "Seventh Princess was poisoned to death, I should examine the corpse as early as possible, so that I could preserve the evidence early."

Knitting his eyebrows again, Xu Xun Si who was always polite appeared to be angry: "It was you who said that Seventh sister was poisoned to death, the wine also confirmed to be poisonous, how did you still want to examine?"

"Third Prince, rest assured, Dan mou will only do a common corpse examination to see the condition of the corpse, whether or not the corpse still has other wounds, etc, so it can be recorded, in order to prepare for the inquiry of the case, will not injure Princess' corpse. If Third Prince does not feel at ease, you can be the spectator."

Qing Ling temporarily was not in danger, Zhuo Qing changed her line of sight to the other direction, Dan Yu Lan spoke the truth, this poisoning case, the earlier the inspection of the corpse, the smallest chance that it would change, moreover, no matter what the case was, doing an autopsy of the corpse was

very important.

Zhuo Qing had higher praise towards Dan Yu Lan, unfortunately, someone's complexion was dark that could frighten people: "Did you say that you want to take off her clothes for the examination?"

Dan Yu Lan, with righteousness, and without pretentious, replied: "Yes, that is right."

"Out of the question!" Xu Xun Si lowly roared! Lightly laying down Seventh Princess' corpse, Xu Xun Si removed his own robe, put the clothing to cover up the thin corpse. Getting up to walk to the middle of the main hall, crossed over Dan Yu Lan, towards Yan Hong Tian and narrated: "Even though my Bei Qi is a small country, but strictly speaking, Seventh sister is also our country's most respected princess, I absolutely can not allow a male to see her corpse, if she is aware of this after death, she will also feel humiliated!"

Yan Hong Tian's complexion was always dark and gloomy, clearly undecided, also not saying where he stood, Dan Yu Lan stepped forward one more time, cordially explained: "Third Prince, Princess' corpse must be examined, in order to be able to find the murderer who has poisoned the Princess as soon as possible, please forgive me, Third Prince."

"Who dares to touch Princess?!" One person was flying forward, Hu Xi Ang blocked in front of Seventh Princess' corpse, he was originally a military leader, under extreme anger, might not care so much, immediately roared: "Princess was obviously and deliberately poisoned by someone in this main hall, the wine also had poison, you did not investigate the murderer, on the contrary, you wanted to humiliate Princess' corpse, you, Qiong Yue, must not bully intolerably!!"

"Third Prince, how do you want to handle this?"

Xu Xun Si finally turned his body around, directly facing him, unflinchingly answered: "Official Dan can inspect with the clothes on, can examine it like this, after completing the examination, I want to bring Seventh Princess home. Anyway, you as an older male, certainly can not examine Seventh sister naked!"

The atmosphere in the main hall was heavy, if Hu Xi Ang had a weapon on his body, he would already show it.

In any case, he could not do the autopsy by force, right? But without the autopsy, how could he judge the case?! Dan Yu Lan was deeply in thought, suddenly his eyes flashed a touch of extraordinary splendor, raised his head one more time, Dan Yu Lan with clear and bright eyes, asked: “A male, can not do it, a female can touch, right?”

“A female?”

This word came out, the whole audience were all frightened, which female had done an autopsy before?!

Zhuo Qing’s heart immediately raised a bad premonition.

Lou Xi Yan’s eyes also flashed through a trace of peculiar.

# Record of Washed Grievances Chapter 43: Who Exactly Am I?

I feel sorry for you all so here is a bonus chapter. But sorry, still no autopsy yet!! Next posting will start the autopsy. I'm also at a point that I start to get bored with these plot repetitions from Qian Lu.

This chapter was edited by Din2.

"A female?" Xu Xun Si tightened his eyebrows, asked: "Qiong Yue has a female coroner?"

A female coroner? These words came out, the whole audiences were frightened, which female had done an autopsy before?!

Zhuo Qing's heart immediately raised a bad premonition, her body unconsciously withdrew behind Mo Bai's tall back, almost disappeared behind the pillar and wanted to hide between the long screen.

Lou Xi Yan's eyes flashed through a trace of peculiar, extremely tiny that no one would discover.

With regards to Xu Xun Si's problem, Dan Yu Lan did not emphatically replied, only persistently asked: "Third Prince only needs to say if she can or can not."

It seemed that they must really do this autopsy, Xu Xun Si was thinking, finally nodded his head and answered: "Ok, if it is a female, she can substitute to examine."

Obtaining a definite answer, Dan Yu Lan turned his body around to walk towards Lou Xi Yan's seat. Lou Xi Yan's forefinger was lightly flicking, his face was leisurely calm, but he lowly cursed in his mind, darn it, unexpectedly was discovered by him!

All of the people were waiting for Dan Yu Lan to find who the female was to come for the autopsy, or he secretly accepted a female disciple. They only saw that he bypassed Lou Xi Yan, walked to one tall male with blue eyes, lightly

clasped his hands to greet in front of him, said: “Miss Qing, I still have to ask your help to examine the Princess.”

Looking at Qing Ling who was suffering hardship, she showed her impetuosity, not only that she resembled Qing Ling very much, but also was by Lou Xi Yan’s side. Although that time inside the prison, he could not see her face clearly, but he could be certain that she was Qing Feng, who gave him a big shock as a youngster on that day!

In the main hall, there was a commotion once again, that was obviously one big male, where was this young lady ah?!!

Zhuo Qing’s heart secretly cursed Lou Xi Yan, why did he not say anything at this time?! With her back was leaning slightly on the cold pillar, she decided not to pay any attention to him.

As if he already saw through Zhuo Qing’s way of thinking, Dan Yu Lan also no longer advanced, only clearly narrated: “If we can not verify the Princess’ corpse today, we can not find any new clue and evidence. Everybody who is involved in this case, will be unable to escape the criminal charges to put poison and conspire to murder Bei Qi’s Princess, it will be more difficult to escape from death.”

Darn it, he was warning her, if he did not examine, Qing Ling would die!

Ironically, she still believed that he was an upright, plain spoken, open and candid person at one time, so actually, he would also play with this type of nasty person’s trick!

Dan Yu Lan’s hands were on his back, also no longer speaking, not too long after, a clear and cold female’s voice that was somewhat resentful furiously echoed: “I will examine.”

Following this voice, one slender silhouette came out from behind the tall man.

That was one person who wore the Prime Minister Lou family’s female clothing, that was right, a female, even though her long hair was combed in a bun. She was wearing a loose robe, but after carefully looking at her, that person’s fair and beautiful face, there was no doubt that she was a female.

‘Bang’~

The sound of a cup that fell on the ground echoed, everyone was facing towards the area where the sound appeared, only saw the Emperor who was in front of the long table, the cup already fell on the ground. The good wine dripped along the table and splashed on the golden rug, the Emperor's pair black eyes were firmly staring at that female who suddenly came out, a group of the state officials were secretly guessing the identity of the female. Only because the Emperor looked at her with expression that contained an excessively complicated state of mind, as if it was unbelievable, also seemed to show full of deep emotions, but then again, it could also be an obvious anger that anybody could see.

Zhuo Qing had goose bumps being looked at by Yan Hong Tian, why was he looking at her like this?! Did she recognize him? Wrong, did Qing Feng recognize him?! Zhuo Qing looked towards Lou Xi Yan for help, his face was actually rarely this calm and collected, with thoughtful eyes.

What should she do now ah?! Zhuo Qing was on fire, simply not opening her eyes, did not look at that man who sat at the highest position, faced Dan Yu Lan and lowly shouted: "Still want to examine or not to examine!?"

Dan Yu Lan recovered and said: "Miss Qing, please."

By passing Dan Yu Lan to walk towards the golden rug, Zhuo Qing lowered her voice, regretfully narrated: "You won!"

Dan Yu Lan stared blankly, could not help to force a smile, it looked like he committed an offense against this Miss Qing today, let her find the opportunity, she certainly would not let him have an easy time, right! But the Emperor showed a somewhat provoking thought a moment ago, looking one more time, the palace eunuch crawled on the ground to clean the wine stained. Yan Hong Tian also already withdrew his line of sight, picked up another cup of wine again, it seemed that everything just as if nothing had happened a moment ago.

Zhuo Qing walked to Seventh Princess' side, Xu Xun Si looked her up and down, asked: "She is?"

"This is....." Dan Yu Lan looked at Lou Xi Yan one glance, only then continued to say once again: "Prime Minister Lou's relative, she will do a few simple autopsy methods for the Princess, does Third Prince have any objection?"

“Prime Minister Lou?” This female was very beautiful, but she was wearing an Imperial bodyguard’s clothing, her right cheek was damaged, could she really be Prime Minister Lou’s relative?

Xu Xun Si looked towards Lou Xi Yan to seek confirmation. Lou Xi Yan magnanimously got up, walked to Zhuo Qing’s side, lightly grasped Zhuo Qing’s hand, with the usual gentle smile, affectionately looked at Zhuo Qing and said: “She, was certainly Lou mou’s madam.”

Ah?!

Zhuo Qing was filled with sinister lines, putting on a play also did not need to strive his hardest like this, ok~

Su Ling stopped holding his wine with his hand for only one moment, then continued to drink his own wine once again.

Dan Yu Lan’s face was pondering.....

Yan Ru Xuan who was half kneeling on the ground almost fell to the ground, one pair of eyes straightforwardly were staring at Lou Xi Yan and that female who were holding hands and standing on the back, when did he have a madam?! Then what about her? What about her?!

The forehead of the palace eunuch who was pouring wine to the Emperor had a layer of sweat, his hand also could not control the light trembling, because he was the only one who saw that the Emperor clenched the wine with a sudden distinct blue veins, the wine cup that was clenched by him was making a creaking sound..... Madam, anybody could not just use this word!! The civil and military officials suffered several excitements again and again tonight. They only heard that the Emperor gifted a beauty to Prime Minister Lou, when did Prime Minister Lou have a madam?! Looking at each other, the main hall sank into deathly stillness again.

Sian’s notes:

I can’t believe ZQ still thinks that LXY is still putting on an act after declaring to the whole world (pretty much) that she’s Lou mou’s madam. Aaaahhhhh... So sweet... That’s the best love confession, at least in my book.

Oh, oh.... Another man is jealous... I can't remember who said that just about every man in this novel is fancying ZQ.

# Record of Washed Grievances Chapter 44: Autopsy Clues (Part 1)

Finally, the autopsy.... But what did she find?? Darn Qian Lu!!! How dare she keeps giving us this cliff-hanger!!! Btw, I may be frustrated with the author here and there because she likes to drag this novel but I definitely won't give up on this novel. So please rest assure that we'll see this novel to the end.

Ok, I just remembered that some of you have not read book 3 of the series and might be confused on how YHT could recognize ZQ as the real Qing Ling or with some of his thoughts in this & next chapters. In book 3, it was explained that he saw QL while he was on a trip to Hao Yue 3 years ago. He saw her by the water. The real QL was supposed to have a soft and kind heart but afraid of any blood so when she saw an injured rabbit, she wanted to help it but was afraid to touch it. This scene was the first time YHT saw the real QL & fell in "love" (whatever definition of love for an emperor who always has a lot of women in his harem ). It was probably more that he wanted to conquer this beautiful & talented woman. That was the reason why he wanted QL to be his woman and was willing to use any trick to press Hao Yue's emperor to "gift" her to him. He always wanted QL for him so when Hao Yue's emperor gifted the other two sisters, he bestowed one to LXY and one to SL. He always knew that the woman who was living in the harem was not QL, only someone that looked a lot like QL but he didn't know that she was the woman who was supposed to be given to LXY (or the real QF). This mixup will be explained in ch 50ish, I think. There will be a long scene between ZQ & YHT in ch 60 when YHT recalled their meeting for the first time (well, the meeting between the real QL & YHT). I hope this explanation helps with some of your questions about YHT and QL's past.

This chapter was edited by Din2.

Why did Prime Minister Lou madam's complexion like this? This style of her dress? Also why did she appear inside the main hall? Everything made people doubtful, but the two people were holding hands at the main hall. Prime

Minister Lou was gazing at the female tenderly, not leaving his gaze for a moment. Even if Xu Xun Si's heart had more doubt, he also could not question the status of the woman.

Prime Minister Lou's madam would do the autopsy for Seventh sister personally, what could he still say? Xu Xun Si could only answered: "Since it is Madam Lou, Ben wang (I) naturally did not have any objection."

Slowly releasing Zhuo Qing's hand, Lou Xi Yan's soft voice said: "Go, ok, I will wait for you."

This much 'gentle and soft' expression of him, she still could not bear this!! Zhuo Qing nodded quickly and walked to Dan Yu Lan's side and asked: "Where do I examine?"

Dan Yu Lan was just about to open his mouth, Yan Hong Tian's impetuous and overcast voice coldly echoed: "Just examine inside the main hall."

Good! Very good! Extraordinarily good! This darn female unexpectedly pretended not to recognize him!! He wanted to see, how could that woman who was afraid of a dead rabbit for half a day do an autopsy!

"Someone comes, pull the curtain covering veil." Yan Hong Tian faced the palace eunuch who was at the side and muttered a few sentences, the palace eunuch hurriedly nodded, hurriedly ran out.

Inside the main hall..... to do an autopsy?

The many state officials were choking, but the Emperor's capricious way, who would dare to be so talkative, even Xu Xun Si was also staring blankly and forgetting to oppose. Reacting after, four palace maids were already holding one block of two feet tall white raw cotton silk and walking to the main hall. The four people encircled the corpse of Xu Yan Yun, surrounded in all four directions, but the cloths could only cover half a person's height, barely enough to cover the corpse that was laying on the ground.

This curtain covering veil was a little too short, ok? Everyone's heart was wondering, several palace eunuchs once again held up a pair of light muslin (cotton fabric), eight people pulled open the light muslin, encircled the four palace maids to cover the outside of all the four directions, the light muslin was

held up above people's head, two layers to separate it, they already could not see the corpse that was laying on the ground.

Zhuo Qing stood outside of the layer upon layer of curtain covering veils, with a gloomy face, what did they do? This was an autopsy, and not an open masquerade party, to be able to use this much elegant?

Zhuo Qing impatiently lifted open the first layer of the light muslin, Dan Yu Lan's voice echoed from behind: "Miss Qing, please use these."

Zhuo Qing turned around, at Dan Yu Lan's side stood one servant, his hand was carrying a tray, one pair of white gloves and an iron scissor were on it.

She just thought about this problem a moment ago, did not have any medical glove to use, she was in difficulty concentrating on how to do an autopsy. Picking up the plain white gloves, soft and tough texture for her satisfaction.

Behind Dan Yu Lan, there was a small table, one servant who dressed as a young male was holding a pen and paper on his hand, waiting for her.

Zhuo Qing lightly raised her eyebrows, Dan Yu Lan was indeed hateful, but he was also a professional, sure enough, everyone's success was entirely not without any reason!

Taking the tray, Zhuo Qing lifted open the light muslin, stepped across about half a meter of the tall cotton cloth fence, she finally was in close range to look at the corpse. Half squatting, Zhuo Qing carefully opened Xu Yan Yun's clothing with a scissor.

The light muslin curtain was down, Zhuo Qing's complexion was tranquil and cold, could not see any trace of fluster. Everyone also knew in the end, why they wanted to do this two layers of draperies, there was a raw white cotton cloth separation, nobody could see the corpse that was on the ground, but the thin light muslin absolutely could not be used as any barrier, Zhuo Qing's every movement could be seen clearly by everyone at the outside.

After finishing to remove the clothing, Zhuo Qing's bright sharp eyes concentratedly watched in front of the corpse, clearly and slightly cold voice echoed in the main hall: "The female's deceased, age between 16 to 22 years, the livor mortis had not yet appeared and rigor mortis was at an early

appearance, time of death was approximately at half a shichen (1 hour). The deceased's complexion was blueish black, eyeballs were protruded, the mouth was slightly opened, mouth, nose, eyes, all had purplish black bloodstained."

Lightly lifting up the corpse because she formerly used her hands excessively to exert her own physically and they were stiffed. Looking over afterwards, Zhuo Qing also turned to examine the feet for the first time, she did not let off every little spot, after for a very long time, she said: "The deceased's skin presented a mild bluish green, fingers and fingernails appeared greenish black, two legs and toenails were mild bluish green. The deceased's throat had a distinct greenish black stripe, abdomen looked normal."

Strange, generally, taking poison medicine orally to die, the deceased's hands, feet and toenails colors would definitely identical. Moreover if the poison appeared to surface on the body's appearance, besides the throat, the esophagus (food pipe) and the stomach would be the places where the poison stayed for the longest time, so there should be more obvious appearances that surfaced on the body! Could it be that the red scarlet worm's venom was relatively exceptional? She did not have any toxicology analysis report on her hand, so troublesome!

No real evidence, Zhuo Qing could only guest in her heart, the hand also did not stay idle, lightly turning over the corpse, Zhuo Qing concentratedly and carefully examined the corpse's back every tiny spot of the skin afterwards, continued to answer: "The back did not yet appear abnormal, the skin's surface did not have any distinct injury."

Preliminary determination, the snake venom's neurotoxin inhibited the respiratory center and vascular center, which caused the respiratory and circulatory failure, cytotoxic (toxic to cells, cell-toxic, cell-killing) caused red blood cell lysis (lysis refers to the breaking down of the membrane of a cell), tissue necrosis (a form of cell injury which results in the premature death of cells in living tissue, is caused by infection, toxins or trauma), resulting in the death of the deceased in a short time. But Zhuo Qing always felt somewhat fishy, half squatting next to the deceased, Zhuo Qing lightly untied the deceased's hair that was in a high bun, took apart the golden hairpin on her head, used her ten fingers to extend among the deceased's hair, pushed aside the hair a little bit to

examine the skull.

Looking at her not speaking for a long time, Xu Xun Si was somewhat impatient and said: "Are you done examining?!"

Unfortunately, there was no one who replied to him in the entire main hall, everyone's eyes were rigidly watching attentively at the vague, serious and beautiful shadow who was inside the light muslin curtain.

Nobody paid attention to him, Xu Xun Si embarrassedly coughed and said: "Fine, since you all finish examining, Ben wang wants to take away Seventh sister's corpse."

Xu Xun Si's speaking voice had just left, inside the curtain covering veil, the bright and shiny eyes played across, a clear and cold's female voice echoed one more time: "Hold on."

She finally found it.....

# Record of Washed Grievances Chapter 45: Autopsy Clues (Part 2)

This chapter was edited by Din2.

“Hold on.” The clear and cold’s voice of a female voice echoed one more time, a touch of bright and shine from Zhuo Qing’s eyes, carefully lifted open the hair on the back of the head, Zhuo Qing continued, tranquilly said: “There was about an inch of an upward thread on the deceased’s back of the head bun, discovered a tiny pincushion wound, the edge of the wound was even, all around the scalp appeared to be greenish black, there was a little black pus blood that spilled over.”

How could the back of the head have a pinhole?

There were trembling discussions sound inside the main hall, and the few people who were standing next to the curtain covering veil nevertheless remained silent, each was considering to some extend.

Dan Yu Lan was curious, where did her teacher come from? Looking at her autopsy’s steps, narrative and careful examination to the extend of the distinctive body features, she absolutely did not lose to any outstanding coroner, even him!

Yan Hong Tian was bewildered, the female who was inside the light muslin faced the corpse with calm and concentration, was she that same beautiful woman whom he recognized from near the water?! He really recognized the wrong person?! No, this was impossible! These past years, her appearance often lingered in his mind, he could not recognize the wrong person! But this person at present, was so strange and yet she was still full of charms as before!! How many faces did she have in the end?!

Comparing to Yan Hong Tian, there was one more person who was even more doubtful, that was Qing Ling (the real QF but again at this point nobody knew except YHT about the identity mixup). The three of them grew up together from

childhood, they learned poem and how to paint together, learned to dance and write in ink together, but she never knew that she could still do autopsy? Moreover, speaking so clearly and logically? What was going on after all?!

Lou Xi Yan calmly stood outside of the curtain covering veil, but his mind had not been put to Zhuo Qing, rather falling into the abnormal expression that Yan Hong Tian had today, his dark, gloomy, serene and hidden' eyes displayed too many complicated moods. This made Lou Xi Yan's heart raised this one kind of a bad premonition, concerning the Qing family's sisters, surely there was still some other secrets in this.

Yan Ru Xuan was staring at the female who was inside the curtain covering veil without blinking her eyes, her hand was tearing apart the corner of her skirt, she could feel that her own heart was shaking, but did not understand, whether it was because of scared or brokenhearted. Why did Yan Gege like the woman who was fiddling with the corpse? Why did he not choose her? Was it because she did not have enough courage?! Why..... The same person who was sinking and contemplating was Su Ling who finally laid down the wine cup. This female must be Qing Feng (again the name was intentionally "wrong" since nobody really knew about the mixup yet), right!

Interesting! One tried to assassinate the Emperor, words were sharp, one was an autopsy's expert, extraordinarily calmed. Recalling that one person whom he had only met once and forgotten at his residence, the Qing family's little sister, he apparently also had a trace of interest!

"Silver needle." The clear and cold of the female's voice pulled back everyone's consciousness once again.

One palace maid's hand was clasping a wrapping cloth and passing it through the curtain muslin, she used her hand to deliver the thing to Zhuo Qing.

Zhuo Qing took out one long needle, avoiding the dirty blood that was oozing at the outside, softly pierced the needle in, she took it out soon, the silver needle changed to black. Putting down the long needle on her hand, Zhuo Qing calmly analyzed: "The silver needle was entered into the wound and rapidly darkened, clearly reacted to the poison. According to the location of the wound and the poison characteristic presented in an open view, I suspected that the cause of

death was not poisoned wine, rather this wound that was on the back of the head, the poisoned wine was merely a diversion, nothing more.”

Xu Xun Si snorted disdainfully, and asked: “Simply discovered one pinhole and you had already concluded like this, was it not rather arbitrary?”

What autopsy, basically, Qiong Yue wanted to avoid the responsibility!

Taking off the gloves on her hands, Zhuo Qing walked away from the curtain to meet Xu Xun Si who had questioning eyes, a clear voice answered: “First, every wound on the deceased’s body is very important, there is a possibility of mortal wound, especially in the case like death by poisoning. Second, I have yet to conclude that this wound on the deceased is deadly, I am rather suspicious, therefore I will propose to do the next further step in an autopsy.”

Zhuo Qing’s complexion was as usual, not angry, also not uncompromising, the neither servile nor overbearing’s answer made Xu Xun Si not knowing what to response momentarily, Lou Xi Yan’s woman, sure enough, should not be underestimated.

“How do you want to do the next further step?” Yang Hong Tian, the one who always sat on the high position, and did not let other people to think over, finally said.

“Dissection.”

Zhuo Qing said tranquilly, a lot of people did not understand her meaning, Dan Yu Lan’s brows were already knotted! Lowly sighed and said: “You want to cut open the abdominal cavity to do the examination?”

Cut\_\_ open\_\_ abdominal\_\_ cavity\_\_??

All of the people who heard it, understood it this time, gasping of cool’s voices could be heard again and again..... Xu Xun Si was at the end of his anger and said: “Impossible! I will absolutely not tolerate you all to treat my younger sister’s body like that!! Do not push your luck!!”

Dan Yu Lan thought about this, and suggested: “Can you or can you not use another method to inspect and verify it, like do the test by pricking the silver needle.”

“Out of the question.” Zhuo Qing shook her head, persistently answered: “The toxicity was already spreading, along with the blood circulation, the deceased had died a while ago, the muscle on the body and the blood, all already had toxicity, otherwise it was also unlikely that the whole skin appeared to be mildly bluish green color. The reaction of the silver needle was very sensitive to the poison, as long as there was the existence of the venom, it would just turned to black, furthermore could not proof what caused the fatal death, whether it was due to drinking the poisoned wine or the pinhole at the back of the head.” Depending on several silver needles to get a conclusion was lacking a rigorous character! She would absolutely never allow this to happen for her professional career.

Zhuo Qing’s voice was just trailing off, Xu Xun Si raised a question again: “Since the whole body is already poisoned now, even if you do this so called dissection, you can not proof anything either!”

“Of course, I can proof it.” Zhuo Qing was very patience and carefully explained: “Within the snake venom that causes the death of the deceased, there are heart and kidney that are extremely quick for organ failures and deadly. If taking the poison orally like a medicine causes the death, because the venom enters from the oral cavity, in that case, the throat, esophagus especially stomach are where the venom stays the longest time, the venom will be corroded, there will be distinct injuries in the internal organs when the venom passes through, maybe even corrosion burn marks. If the pinhole at the back of the head causes the mortal wound, the venom just walks through a strip of nerve line, the stomach and esophagus will not have this particular distinct of marks. Dissection is the obvious way to inspect and verify which method the poison enters the deceased’s body and causes the fatal death in the end.”

Dan Yu Lan was amazed again that she understood every aspect of the deceased’s internal organs, but even if she said the truth, in this entire Qiong Yue, cutting open to examine the corpse like this way, it would also not happen a few times in a year, after all how many family member could bear this? Sure enough, as he already anticipated, Xu Xun Si rose in revolt first: “No matter what you say, I will absolutely not let you all touch my younger sister’s one hair!”

After speaking, Xu Xun Si just lifted open the cloth to enter the curtain

covering veil, one slender hand blocked his body, Xu Xun Si did not understand and looked over, Zhuo Qing's complexion was as usual, but the voice was ice cold and did not have any warmth, she said: "Third Prince, in theory, if your younger sister was not poisoned by the drinking wine, rather she died because of the needle on the back of her head, the first person who hurriedly embraced her was you, then there was a major suspicion, as a suspect, you should not approach the corpse."

"You.. You, you are simply repulsive!!" Hearing Zhuo Qing's words, Xu Xun Si could not help to be in violent rage in the end.

# Record of Washed Grievances Chapter 46: Autopsy Clues (Part 3)

Awww... Our favorite guy (albeit a foxy) was trying to protect his madam. But ZQ wasn't someone who was afraid to deal with confrontation, was she! Have a great weekend all!

This chapter was edited by Din2.

"You.. You, you are simply repulsive!!" Hearing Zhuo Qing's words, Xu Xun Si could not help to be in violent rage in the end, accompanied by the roaring emotion, Xu Xun Si's tall and thin silhouette approached Zhuo Qing: "Ridiculous!! How can I harm my own blood's younger sister?!"

Zhuo Qing only felt her shoulder was warm, Lou Xi Yan lightly pushed her body to the side, his distinct clear and sleek's voice echoed on the side of her ear: "Third Prince, please calm down."

Xu Xun Si took a deep breath, pressed down his unhappy heart, was unwilling to take part in any open conflict with Lou Xi Yan, turned his back and held his hand to stand, his tone was incomparably unyielding: "In short, she is already dead, you all want to do this cruel thing to her, make her suffer this kind of humiliation, she also can not be peaceful after death, Ben wang will absolutely not agree!"

The atmosphere was deadlocked for a time, Dan Yu Lan's honest face, appeared to be rarely anxious in the end, Princess was or was not dead because of the pinhole on the back of her head after all, everything was still merely her guess. If we could not move forward one step in doing the examination of the corpse, just could not inspect and verify. But Third Prince's attitude was firm, they also could not do the dissection by force, after all, a Princess from one country already died, how was this be good?!

Zhuo Qing turned around to look one glance at the body behind the light muslin covering veil, she recalled that person's unforgettable beautiful dance,

looked at her laying down on the ice cold floor, she already began to gradually become stiffed and her vague's beautiful image. Zhuo Qing softly pushed away Lou Xi Yan's hand that protected her, he was puzzled by her expression, she went towards Xu Xun Si.

She stood in front of Xu Xun Si, refusing to acknowledge his disgusted expression towards her, Zhuo Qing pointed at the curtain covering veil, coldly narrated: "Your younger sister's death was not normal, in other words, it was caused by somebody, she died unjustly, the murderer however, could get away with it. This kind of death for her would be humiliating, you would let her die with remaining grievances, she would not be peaceful. Autopsy or dissection of the corpse, it was not being disrespectful and insulting to the deceased, contrary to that, it was rather to help her. Speaking that she wished to say some words, she used her body to tell you, why she died! And as her elder brother, you were not protecting her now, rather you prevented her to speak the truth about her death!"

The indifferent voice was not passionate, but enough to let everybody in the main hall listened to it clearly, and also at this time, did not know whether it was a coincidence or there was really a somewhat supernatural being that was speaking, Zhuo Qing's speaking voice hardly finished, a sudden burst of cold wind came to attack from the gate into the main hall, the whole rows of candle flame that were on the two sides of the main hall along the long golden rug were extinguished, the only candle flames that had not been extinguished were the ones located on the second layer platform where the corpse was, the light muslin covering veil was also blown away violently by the wind!

The sudden situation that came, made many palace maids scare to hold their heads, tightly closed their eyes, the Empress' complexion was also scarily pale, her fingers were uncontrollably trembling slightly. Those so called cabinet ministers, there were also many who were scarily shivering.

Everyone was fearful incessantly at the main hall, Zhuo Qing just stood there with a cold complexion, she was actually in a daze, what was this situation?! She had done autopsies for many years, she had heard about this bizarre thing, but she had never experienced this on her own. She was an atheist, only believed in science, believed evidences. Even if there was really any demon or ghost that

died unjustly, she did not dare to make a false and unwarranted declaration to put excessive fear in this environment, but also was not in fear if they appeared acting up. She would carry her knife down to all of the corpses with unknown cause of deaths, how could they attack her once again after she was acting as their redress of injustices for the people.

The extremely cold wind that was bursting had passed, the tranquility was once again restored very quickly in the main hall, but everybody's complexion was entirely not serene, especially Xu Xun Si. His handsome face was slightly white, brows were even more profound and tangled together, eyes were staring at the delicate image who was inside the light muslin thin covering veil, expression was complicated.

Dan Yu Lan turned towards Zhuo Qing to send one meaningful glance, this time would be the best opportunity to persuade the Third Prince. Zhuo Qing immediately looked at him without doing it excessively, passing through that chaos just a moment ago, everyone looked at her with incomparable strange expressions. Zhuo Qing was no longer speak intelligently, she was a forensic investigator, was not a fake fortune teller, she already finished talking on whatever words she ought to say.

Zhuo Qing completely ignored him, Dan Yu Lan had no choice, could only advance on his own, stood behind Xu Xun Si, lowly said: "The death of the Seventh Princess was a sorrowful matter for both Qiong Yue and Bei Qi. We can investigate and find out the cause of death and give the Princess a justice. This is the most important matter now, Third Prince, please consider it."

Xu Xun Si was silent for a long time afterwards, he still had a firm attitude to oppose a moment ago, it seemed to change in the end, powerlessly waving his hands, sighed and said: "Do the examination, ok."

Zhuo Qing rolled her eyes, it seemed that the supernatural beings were still more convincing than speaking in the ancient times! She should really express gratitude at the unfathomable muster of the chilly wind..... Turning around to lift opened the thin curtain, Zhuo Qing's incomparably and naturally instructed Dan Yu Lan to prepare the equipments for the dissection: "Dan Yu Lan, I need three different dimension of sharp blades, one small scissor, several strips of clean handkerchiefs and several porcelain bowls, needle and thread, one basin of

drinking water. In addition, a new pair of gloves.” The circumstances here could only have these kinds, put up with it, ok.

“Can you do the examination?” Dan Yu Lan who was behind her was really frightened at this time, there were no more than ten coroners in the whole Qiong Yue who could cut open the abdominal cavity for an autopsy like this. And she was a female, unexpectedly could also do it?!

Zhuo Qing turned around, she personally did not think that dissecting was a strange matter, she did several times everyday before, naturally, there was no way to understand Dan Yu Lan’s surprise, softly shrugged her shoulder, indifferently answered: “If you want to personally examine her, you can, I am only a spectator.” She had never seen the people from the ancient times on how they would do dissection, and the dissection of the modern times had a big disparity, she could compare it carefully.

She still wanted to be \_\_\_\_ a spectator?!!

Zhuo Qing said randomly, but did not know that a group of older men heard the sinister lines, strictly speaking, this was dissecting a corpse now, this was a reeling of blood and terrible thing even for men, and her face became exhilarated (in high spirit), their common aspiration only for her this time..... Was she or was she not a woman after all?

Zhuo Qing automatically ignored them again, entering the middle of the curtain covering veil, she turned her body to caution: “I personally propose a dissection’s time when there is the closest next of kin and at least one higher level than the official position of your staff to supervise, in order to be conspicuous and fair.”

Her thinking was actually very considerate, but within the whole entire main hall, the position who was higher than his high position was only a few, who would wish to supervise!? Dan Yu Lan secretly sighed in his heart, but he had never thought, that Yan Hong Tian who was sitting at the high position suddenly said in a loud voice: “Good! In order to show fairness, Zhen will personally supervise.”

Yan Hong Tian’s speaking voice was off, a group of state officials were frightened, one another was falling on the ground: “The Emperor, please

consider it three times!”

The Empress finally recovered, urgently said: “The Emperor, this is a matter of blood contamination, extremely filthy for the Dragon’s body, you must consider it three times ah.”

Extremely filthy?! Zhuo Qing frowned, she had a bit more disgusted with this Empress, she would be best prayed secretly for a natural death for herself so she did not need to experience this ‘extremely filthy’s’ dissection!

Yan Hong Tian had a trace of hesitation as well, not because of the Empress’ mediation and a group of state officials who were kneeling. He suddenly got up, tall and straight silhouette that carried an overbearing and overtaxing atmosphere was walking towards Zhuo Qing immediately. He wanted to see until when she could still play this role!

# Record of Washed Grievances Chapter 47: There Was Only One Truth

I was doing a revision and hit the publish button accidentally... So I will not post any chapter on Monday as this chapter is supposed to be released on Monday.

Sangti, reading this chapter again just before posting it, it seemed that you got your Y cut dissection. Hehehe...

This chapter was edited by Din2.

That high status person with complete majestic presence carried on the overbearing and overtaxing atmosphere was coming towards Zhuo Qing straightforwardly. Zhuo Qing welcomed his dark and gloomy eyes, also could no longer evade, he rushed to come for Qing Feng, right? If he liked the Qing family's three sisters, why did he not keep and use all of them, still wanted to give them away. Now that he gave the sisters away, it seemed like the other people would owe him.

She unexpectedly dared to stare at him?! Very good, her courage increased after not seeing her for three years!

Walking in front of Zhuo Qing, Yan Hong Tian suddenly said: "You are the one who has suggested to do the dissection, we will just follow you, Official Dan will only provide an assistance to you. (YHT actually used these characters to call DYL, 单亲家, 单-Dan 亲-qin (relative) 家-jia (family). I'll keep the Official Dan for consistency). He still wanted to see what additional progress did she have for these last three years!

Dan Yu Lan was worry and looked at Zhuo Qing for one glance, only saw her indifferent appearance, Dan Yu Lan answered: "Yes."

Yan Hong Tian and Zhuo Qing were having contest with their expressions, Lou Xi Yan's gentle voice echoed timely: "The Emperor, Chen is worry that she will be nervous, not sure if it is possible or not to allow Chen to enter along?"

Yan Hong Tian's eyes flashed through a trace of displeasure, but before he could answer, there was a distinct mutter echoing: "Chen has not seen this type of dissection autopsy either, also wishes to increase my knowledge, does not know if it is possible or not?" Once these words came out, everybody was smiling again, what was up with today? The always grim and silent's General Su was also following to join in the fun ah?

Covered by Su Ling's pair of cold eagle eyes that were looking at him, Xu Xun Si felt even more pressure, the general who was always victorious in the battlefield, his imposing manner was really out of the ordinary. Thinking on how he should turn it down, Hu Xi Ang who was on the back took the initiative to talk, removed his awkwardness: "General Su's words were heavy, although the Princess had just passed away, she was still a female after all, afraid that it would be extremely inconvenient, ok."

Zhuo Qing turned over to roll her eyes, autopsy was not a show anyway, what did they want to look at!! Pointing at the two men who looked eager and interested, coldly leaving a sentence: "The two of you are not allowed to go in, if you want to see, just see from the outside of covering veil."

"Hurry up to start." Bringing up the subject, Zhuo Qing took the lead to open the muslin curtain first and went inside.

Dan Yu Lan softly lifted the muslin curtain, Yan Hong Tian lifted his steps to enter, Xu Xun Si was soon after, Hu Xi Ang also wanted to follow in, but Dan Yu Lan blocked his path, curled his mouth. Hu Xi Ang was standing close to the curtain and could still faintly see the corpse on the ground.

Lou Xi Yan looked one glance at Su Ling who was next to him, he was under the impression that he would return to his seat, who would have thought, he unexpectedly was just like himself that he had decided to stand outside of the curtain covering veil to watch the situation inside with great interest.

Looking at the three people who had already decided to stand, Zhuo Qing put on the gloves and inspected the equipments, while asking: "We can start, ok?"

The corpse on the ground was laying down stiffly, the skin was completely greenish black, the eyes stuck out, she was not beautiful at all, it could be said. No one would look at this kind of corpse and would still have other ideas, one

could just feel frightful and ferocious, she could still manage to act this naturally, quietly as usual, Yan Hong Tian's heart somewhat admired her.

Slowly nodded, Yan Hong Tian answered: "Begin, ok."

Zhuo Qing placed the knife under the deceased's throat first, slowly went down to the thoracic cavity, the measurement was not very big, the bleeding volume was not a lot but the smell reeking of blood still filled the entire main hall instantly. Looking at the person's thoracic cavity that was cut open in front of him, Xu Xun Si felt a sense of nausea came up, the person who was laying on the ground was not another person, but his sister. He looked away for several times, he could not continue to look anymore.

From the start to finish, Zhuo Qing was entirely focused on doing the matter that should be done, while dissecting, she was also explaining clearly, in order to be recorded. Just the same as the countless autopsies that she had done in the past.

"The inside of the deceased's thoracic cavity accumulated a little bit of fluid, the color was dark red, the surface of both the pleural cavities (part of thorax that contains lung) and the chest wall were stucked together, thymus (lymphoid organ). Each thoracic organs was normal. The heart clearly dilated, the color of myocardium (the middle and thickest layer of the heart wall) was dark black, the presence of phenomenon stem, aorta wall was smooth, coronary artery was extremely hard, the inner membrane of heart was bleeding a little, myocardium was stiffed, left and right ventricle (heart) muscles were swelling, kidney was greenish black, enveloped membrane skin exfoliation. Pair of lungs were shrinking, the surface appeared to be brown with red blood spots, the section color was dark black."

A clear and cold's female voice echoed inside the main hall, and the reeking smell of blood, was somewhat frightening, not unexpectedly, Zhuo Qing heard several sounds of vomiting, very normal, not everybody could bear it.

If she could do one spinal cord and cell in the laboratory test to look at the follicle and bone marrow to see the extend of the changes, that would be better, Zhuo Qing sighed one more time, did not have any equipment was extremely inconvenient. Zhuo Qing's heart was silently cursing, just in time to prepare to

examine the respiratory tract, a pair of pure white gloves were handed over to the side of her body: “Exchange the gloves, be careful with the poison within the blood.”

Zhuo Qing raised her eyes to look, it was Dan Yu Lan who handed over the gloves to her, his eyes immediately were watching at the corpse on the ground attentively. Zhuo Qing was familiar with his eyes that were heating up, the time when she just started working, she was also like this excited with regards to every learning experience. It seemed that the opportunity to do dissection was not too many for him.

Dan Yu Lan’s heart beat rapidly, he had done many dissection autopsies on his own, but the examination this time was so meticulous, it was also his first time, moreover, her technique and level understanding towards the corpse were absolutely above him, he must ask her where she learned and who was her teacher in the end!!

Zhuo Qing exchanged the gloves over, continued doing the matter, but her movement was slower this time, every step was strived to let Dan Yu Lan to see it clearly. “The deceased’s esophagus mucous membrane did not have corrosion and bleeding appearance, stomach content was rare, mucous membrane stucked together a little, stomach wall was not bleeding, necrosis, perforation and other changes, did not have abnormal odor.”

Switching to another knife, Zhuo Qing placed the knife on the cranial cavity side once again, continued to say: “Multiple hematoma within the cranial cavity, because of the pinhole that was at the center, muddy color (blood color), smelled fishy.”

Examination was practically completed, Zhuo Qing finally raised her head, looked towards the three different looking men and said: “The deceased’s heart, lung, kidney were corroded by poison clearly, I could determine that the deceased was poisoned to death. Esophagus, stomach and other organs did not appear to have any trace of venom corrosion, the wine that she drank was not poisonous. The lead cause of her death was the wound at the back of her head, the venom passed through the pincushion and directly entered into blood circulation, causing a myocardium paralysis within a short time, kidney’s failure and died. Is there any objection?”

“No.” Dan Yu Lan responded first, Yan Hong Tian only nodded coldly, he was really shocked with her performance a moment ago, she had really changed in the three years time. Xu Xun Si hurriedly nodded afterwards, could not stand it anymore and dashed to go out.

No objection, then she could stop working! Once again neglecting them, Zhuo Qing began to suture the cut conscientiously, Yan Hong Tian’s expression looked at her one glance complicatedly, not saying anything, he came out of the curtain covering veil. Dan Yu Lan also followed closely from behind to go out of the curtain covering veil.

Yan Hong Tian returned to the Dragon Throne, the Empress was frightened and biting her lips tightly, her breath was unstable. Yan Hong Tian’s brows slightly knitted and he lowly snorted: “You are afraid, then return to the palace.”

The Empress recovered with great difficulty, tremblingly answered: “Chenqie.... Chenqie is ok.” (Chenqie is the same as I when the empress or concubine addresses themselves when speaking with the emperor).

With disgusting and vicious heart, Yan Hong Tian turned his line of sight, and looked down at the pale complexion of Xu Xun Si, with a cold voice, asked: “Third Prince, since the Princess did not drink the poison wine from my Qiong Yue, rather it was someone who used a pincushion to hit the back of her head, what did you want to say?”

After seeing the scene inside that curtain a moment ago, Xu Xun Si’s inner heart had not yet calmed down, Yan Hong Tian asked this question, made him also unable to ask a question with a cold voice: “The Qiong Emperor’s meaning was that this small Prince killed my own younger sister!?”

“Whether or not it was the Third Prince, of course, it would still necessary to continue the investigation, but the Third Prince was the most likely person to commit the murder at the present time.....”

Yan Hong Tian had not yet finished his words, inside the curtain covering veil, Zhuo Qing was looking at the thing that she just found out on her own just a moment ago, with somewhat surprise and somewhat sighing’s voice, she faintly said: “He should be the least likely person to commit the murder.”

# Record of Washed Grievances Chapter 48: The Murderer Was You (Part 1)

This chapter was edited by Din2.

A serene and cold's female voice interrupted his words, Yan Hong Tian's complexion was dark, did this woman really want to set herself against him?! She was obviously the one who made the conclusion on her own just a moment ago, and yet, she said that Xu Xun Si could not be the murderer now!?

Dan Yu Lan believed what Zhuo Qing would say, she had her own reason, but the Emperor's displeasure was already placed on his face, Dan Yu Lan immediately asked: "Since the pincushion that entered the back of the head was deadly to the deceased, it was the Third Prince who approached the Princess a moment ago, why did you say that he was the least likely person to commit the murder?"

Lifting up the muslin curtain, Zhuo Qing held a porcelain plate and came out, used her hand to pass on the stuff to Dan Yu Lan, Zhuo Qing answered: "Because during the time that I sutured the brain cut, I found this." At first, she believed that the wound on the back of the head was where the pincushion was directly entered by the murderer and stayed behind, as it turned out, it was not at all.

"This was....." Dan Yu Lan looked towards the porcelain plate, there was one root that was slightly thicker than a hair on the plate, one black thread that was approximately about an inch in length, carefully distinguished it for a long time, Dan Yu Lan hesitatingly said: "This was the silver needle?"

Xu Xun Si was also curious to look at it, this stuff would appear to resemble like a contaminated silver string.

Zhuo Qing nodded her head and asked: "Who has this capability to come near so close to the deceased, could hold this thin silver needle and prick about an inch of it into the back of her head, without injuring her skull?"

Looking all the way around the main hall, Zhuo Qing held her vision to stop at

Su Ling, because there would be nobody who could compare to this General in martial arts within this main hall, right.

Dan Yu Lan took the silver plate and carried it to Su Ling, Su Ling only looked one glance, without even knitting his brows, candidly answered: "I can not do it."

Zhuo Qing shrugged her shoulder, she did not have any false explanation, even this General Su could not do it, Xu Xun Si was even more impossible to accomplish it. If he was using a concealed weapon to injure the Princess, it was even more unnecessary for him to run away quickly to avoid suspicion because Xu Yan Yun would undoubtedly die from the poison injection.

Her excessive confidence in herself appeared extraordinarily dazzling! Yan Hong Tian overbearingly asked: "So do you know who the murderer is?"

"I do not know." Zhuo Qing replied straightforwardly: "The only thing I can do is an autopsy, not solving a case, next is his task." She was only a forensic investigator, had never believed that she herself was omnipotent, the important general calmly admitted that he was not capable, what was she afraid of.

Zhuo Qing retreated behind Lou Xi Yan's long table, wanted to sit and rest for a moment, but the hidden bitterness of somebody's vision was watching her tightly and attentively. Zhuo Qing's back was cool, she forgot that there was still Princess!

Feeling reluctant to return to her old own place which was next to Mo Bai's side to stand, and leaning against the pillar, Zhuo Qing was minding her own business by massaging her legs, she did not pay any attention to the main hall where there were still a group of people who were at a loss.

Lou Xi Yan shook his head and broke into laughter, she did not know that being so laid back like this, other people would seem to look like she was a brash?! Softly coughing, Lou Xi Yan faintly smiled and said: "If you want to find the murderer, it is actually not difficult. Official Dan should already think who the murderer is." This sentence was successful to attract everyone's attention to Dan Yu Lan.

This person really held a grudge, he only let his woman to come out to be in the limelight for a while! Dan Yu Lan clenched his teeth and answered: "Prime

Minister Lou is really flattering this small official.”

Fortunately he really had a suspect in his heart, Dan Yu Lan’s was holding the porcelain plate, a pair of sharp eyes swept across everyone, a clear and bright’s voice echoed in the inside of the main hall: “If you want to use this thin silver needle to shoot the Princess in front of a packed civil and military ranking officers, the murderer’s hand must have a concealed weapon to assist him, and he is surely still inside the main hall.”

Who was it in the end?

This was everyone’s question in their hearts, in all cases, the trembling sound like there was thousands of mosquitos’ buzzing sounds, listening to it felt agitated, also could not clearly hear what they were talking about.

Dan Yu Lan walked to Hu Xi Ang’s side, with a cold voice asked: “The wine that the Princess drank did not have poison, from when the Princess put down the cup until she died, only General Hu was the one who touched the wine cup. Could you or could you not explain it, the wine that was on your hand, why would the test come out to be poisonous?”

“What was the meaning of your words!?” Hu Xi Ang faced Dan Yu Lan, stamped with fury, cursed and said: “How could I know why the wine would have poison, if the murderer could murder the Princess from a distance, it was also possible that he could put poison from a distance. Bringing about the false appearance that the Princess drank a deadly poison wine, I was only anxious to know the Princess’ cause of death so took that cup of wine, nothing more! This way you just determined that I was the murderer? It was rather too much of a trifling matter, right!”

General Hu’s words were actually reasonable, in this way, the determination was indeed a somewhat trifling matter.” Dan Yu Lan looked towards his wrist, pretended to be puzzled, he asked: “In that case, General Hu, whether or not you can say it, the stuff that you always carry on your wrist, where is it now?”

Hu Xi Ang’s bracelet on his hand was very special, he was paying attention in the beginning to the end, but that stuff was completely gone for no reason after finding the silver thread, this was very strange, right?!

Dan Yu Lan was obviously suspected Hu Xi Ang, Xu Xun Si already felt it, but he

did not say anything, Hu Xi Ang's back slightly raised and stared blankly, his expression was dark.

A moment later, he took out about an inch wide bracelet that was embedded with previous gems on the top from an embroidered pouch on his waist, unhurriedly answered: "My mother left this remnant for me, but it was only an ordinary bracelet, nothing more. In our Bei Qi, the bracelet is a symbol of wealth if a man wears it. The Third Prince also wears a bracelet on his hand, this is not that strange, I only put the bracelet in the pouch to save it a moment ago, nothing more."

Zhuo Qing lightly raised her eyebrows, this man was rather complicated, his behavior looked like an impertinent man a moment ago, but he looked very calm now.

If it was really that simple, why did he want to conceal it? Dan Yu Lan, with a heavy voice asked: "Is it possible to lend it to me so I can look."

"Here it is." Using his hand to pass on the stuff to Dan Yu Lan, Hu Xi Ang's face was calm and indifferent.

Taking the thin bracelet and looking at it, the wristband was very delicate, both the inside and outside had a thin slender fine thread and secret small crack, the bracelet had a little thickness, the feel was rather heavy. Using this as a concealed weapon was also not impossible, lightly pressing the top part of the precious stone, he did not find any peculiar. Trying to push the top of the precious stone, the embed was also very firm, he also did not find any mechanism that could stick out or cave in all around the bracelet.

Hu Xi Ang with a cold face, shouted: "Did you look enough, return it to me."

Was it really not him? Dan Yu Lan sank to ponder one more time, there was not a lot of people on the second layer of the main hall, the person who could be near the wine cup was even less. He also did not find any other silver thread on the cup or any suspicious stuff, so it was possible that Hu Xi Ang took advantage to pick up the wine cup to put the poison at that time.

But what stuff did he use as the concealed weapon after all? If the bracelet was the concealed weapon, how could he prove it?!

Could it really be no other way?!

## Record of Washed Grievances Chapter 49: The Murderer Was You (Part 2)

Another loooong chapter. Over 2,500 words. Finally the end of the palace banquet but unfortunately, we'll still be in the palace... until Chapter 55 which will conclude volume 1 of this book.

This chapter was edited by Din2.

Who was the murderer after all?

When all is said and done, this bracelet was or was not the murder weapon?! This bracelet did not have any unusual condition at the moment, how could he prove that it was the concealed weapon?

Dan Yu Lan was still holding the bracelet, sinking into a deep thought, Dan Yu Lan kept silent. Hu Xi Ang raised his cold eyes, also did not say anything, was only urgently anxious to get back his bracelet.

Zhuo Qing was massaging her somewhat sore legs due to her crouching during autopsy a moment ago. Other people might think that she seemed to not paying attention but was actually chatting with Mo Bai, only her voice was somewhat loud: "I remember that you say the red scarlet worm's poison is Qiong Yue country's distinctive poison, and it is not the same as any other poison, is it right?"

Mo Bai faintly perceived that Zhuo Qing already thought of a way, he responded to answer: "Yes."

Zhuo Qing shrugged her shoulder, looking at Hu Xi Ang's complexion that was already changed slightly, and said: "So in this way, even if you are unable to solve that the bracelet is the concealed weapon, as long as you can prove that the bracelet has the quantity of red scarlet worm's poison that is sufficient to be a mortal poison to kill someone, General Hu only needs to explain properly."

That was right, ah! The murderer chose this special poison in order to entrap Qiong Yue, this unique and unmatched nature would also be easier to expose

itself at the same time. He only thought about finding the concealed weapon, in fact, he could also start from the venom! Looking at the bracelet that was on his hand one glance, Dan Yu Lan brightly called out: “Someone comes, bring up a basin of fresh water.”

“Yes.”

Very quickly, a palace maid came to bring a basin of fresh water, Dan Yu Lan erected a silver needle to enter the water, did not have any change, continued on to lightly throw the bracelet into the water. Soon, the thin bracelet’s dense texture, slowly exuded a faint red trace, very quickly blended into the water, and the silver white long needle that was in the water, also changed into black slowly, a faint fishy smell exactly like the smell from the poisonous wine cup.

Taking the basin softly to push it in front of Hu Xi Ang, Dan Yu Lan coldly said: “General Hu can explain this, why does the bracelet that you wear have the red scarlet worm’s poison, you will not say that the wine splashes it up, right?” He did not believe that he would use this clumsy excuse to provide an explanation.

Hu Xi Ang’s complexion was somewhat white, but did not appear to be panic, also did not explain, tranquilly answered: “This matter is already so far, I have nothing to explain properly.”

He admitted it?! But what was the motive? He would not kill somebody without no cause or reason, right, nevertheless, it was his own country’s Princess!

Evidently, this question, Xu Xun Si was the most anxious to know, casting an angry look at Hu Xi Ang, Xu Xun Si severely reprimanded and asked: “Why did you do it, if Qiong Yue and Bei Qi become enemies, what would you benefit?! The Old General Hu (Hu Xi Ang’s father), for all his life, for the country and the people, sacrificed himself for the sworn brotherhood. You did this way, how could you let him down?!”

“You, shut up, you all, Xu’s family did not have any qualification to mention my father’s name!!” The original tranquil and intellect’s Hu Xi Ang suddenly looked like he was exposed a little, Xu Xun Si’s words stabbed Hu Xi Ang’s most sensitive heart like a bow string. Hu Xi Ang pressed on towards Xu Xun Si, his tall and sturdy figure, pair of red eyes that showed anger, made Xu Xun Si a little frightened and retreated one step.

Staring to look at Xu Xun Si, somewhat sneering, somewhat unwilling, filing more with heart filled with rage and hatred, Hu Xi Ang raised his voice and said: "My father was too pedantic, did not agree to form an alliance with Di Nu, insisted to serve the court, insisted on this so called bond, what was the outcome? He fought Di Nu for a length of time, what did you all, this hypocritical royal family do? You did not send a reinforcement, cut army provisions, made him suffer under the enemy, finally died tragically under the enemy's arrows. This was precisely what you were saying about sacrificing oneself for the brotherhood, you all only knew about civil wars, could only criticize the court, in spite of the people's suffering, regardless of the soldiers who labored, absolutely unworthy of my father's loyalty and devotion."

Xu Xun Si's brows tightly wrinkled together, did not dare to believe and asked: "So you deliberately killed Seventh younger sister, destroyed the alliance between Bei Qi and Qiong Yue, both countries became enemies, and would also let Bei Qi suffer under the enemy?"

"You were correct, I just wanted to look at you all's near death appearances!! The best way was to let you all experience the feeling when the arrows pierced through your heart!!" Hu Xi Ang was on the verge of being mad when he laughed heartily, his entire body was full of hatred, made all of the people were frightened and unconsciously gasping.

Hu Xi Ang's madness made people had this bad premonition, Yan Hong Tian's clear voice shouted: "Somebody comes, hold Hu Xi Ang in temporary custody."

"No need to be inconvenient." His laughter finally stopped, carrying a hoarse voice, Hu Xi Ang seemed to be somewhat exhausted, faintly sighed and said: "Nothing more, the matter already fell through and was exposed, I would just accompany my tough character's old man (his father) properly."

Still speaking, he picked up the silver needle that was inside the basin with his hand, faced his own temple (on his head), he ferociously pierced the needle in it..... Everything happened so fast, the moment everybody reacted, his tall silhouette already collapsed in the main hall.

Dan Yu Lan hurriedly went to look over, only saw him twitching almost after he went down, unexpectedly was also motionless, complexion showed greenish

black, hand and foot were stiffed, the two eyes were protruding outside.

Dan Yu Lan slowly got up, lowly answered: "He is dead."

There was another one that was dead?!

No one would have thought that holding a welcoming reception dinner would turn like this in the end.

Su Ling's eyes flashed through a touch of sadness, he had met the Old General Hu, also completely admired his personal character. Hu Xi Ang did not understand, maybe Bei Qi's royal family was really unworthy of the loyalty and devotion, but the Old General Hu protected not only Bei Qi's royal family, even more so, he protected Bei Qi's common people.

The party delegation of three people, unexpectedly he was the only one left at the moment, Xu Xun Si only felt sorrowful and humiliated, for himself and for Bei Qi. Deeply breathing, Xu Xun Si suddenly half kneeling, in a low voice requested: "This kind of matter that happened today was really Bei Qi's sorrowful, as a result, it became a misunderstanding. Requesting Qiong's Emperor to permit me to take the remains of these two people back to Bei Qi."

Lightly raising his hands, Yan Hong Tian did not embarrass him more, clearly said: "Granted. Somebody comes, send off the Third Prince to return to the post house. Official Dan, I will hand over the matter here to you."

"Yes."

Yan Hong Tian finished talking, soon after, hurriedly got up, taking large steps to walk out of the palace hall, he had not looked one glance at Zhuo Qing again from the start to finish. Zhuo Qing was breathing relaxingly, Yan Hong Tian towards her, wrong, towards Qing Feng, seemed to reveal all kind of moodiness, showed that they surely had some entanglements between them, and she did not want herself to get caught up into this tangled situation.

Zhuo Qing raised her eyes to look towards a not far away place in the direction of Qing Ling once again, but only saw the three palace eunuchs who were looking after her before, there was no Qing Ling's shadow inside the main hall for a long time.

Could it be that the Empress took her away?! Zhuo Qing was somewhat

anxious, but after thinking it again, even if the Empress really took her away, what could she do anyway? Unconsciously, Zhuo Qing's gaze changed direction to Lou Xi Yan, just in time to bump into Princess Chao Yun's tearful eyes unexpectedly, her misty eyes were concentrated with deep emotion and hidden bitterness. Zhuo Qing could not help to frown her eyebrows, she could not become somebody's imaginary enemy, withdrawing her line of sight, Zhuo Qing avoided Lou Xi Yan to walk towards the outside of the palace hall.

Just before Zhuo Qing passed him, he stuck his shoulder and her hand was captured, slightly cool sensation, did not need to think, she already knew it was him, not waiting until Zhuo Qing turned her head around, a gentle whisper next to her ear echoed: "Go to the chariot and wait for me first, I will come in a moment."

His voice was just barely fading, Zhuo Qing did not need to turn around, she could already feel that scorching stare behind her.

She could not go out of the palace on her own anyway, if she did not wait outside for him, where could she still go? He was surely doing this on purpose!! Fortunately, he already released her hand that was pulled by him, Zhuo Qing lazily obtained his nonsense, as to save her explanation in the eyes of other people's conspicuous thinking to deny his philandering way.

Zhuo Qing walked confidently and at ease, Yan Ru Xuan's heart was nevertheless aching, looking at Lou Xi Yan who was still gazing at that woman's face. Yan Ru Xuan heard her own voice and trembled: "Do you... like her?"

Lou Xi Yan turned back his head, only faintly answered: "The time is not early anymore, Princess should return to the palace early to rest, ok."

"Do you like her?" She must know today!! This many years, she had already had enough of this lukewarm treatment!

His eyes did not appear to have great waves, Lou Xi Yan was still as before, faintly said: "Chen has already said inside the main hall a moment ago, she is Chen's madam."

Clenching her fist, Yan Ru Xuan did not look like her old habit that would choose to escape first, choked with sobs, Yan Ru Xuan insisted on asking: "I only ask you, whether or not you like her?!" She did not care about any madam, any

status, she only wanted to know who he liked in his heart in the end?!

In front of the tear stained face of a beautiful girl, Lou Xi Yan's hand moved, slowly dropped again, only concisely answered with one word: "Yes." (Awwww).

Yes.....

Yan Ru Xuan's brain was blank for a split second.

He said yes?!

The person that he liked, was not her.....

When he had not had any sweetheart at that time, she could deceive herself, that he still liked her, but now, how could she still deceive herself?!

What should she do? She really really liked him ah? She liked him for a long time, during the flower fall season, his very soft smile on his face, as feathery light smile that captured her heart, from that time it was not hers anymore, what did she want to do now??

Yan Ru Xuan's expression was sluggish, Lou Xi Yan was somewhat concerned, she was a good girl but too frail. This was why, for many years, he had always been abided by a ruler and minister's etiquette, estranged and indifferent, but he did not dare to speak forthrightly about the reason to her.

Yan Ru Xuan suddenly turned around, slowly advanced to walk out of the palace hall, as if an absent minded's zombie, made Lou Xi Yan unable to bear not to follow her.

Inside the main hall, the people were already scattered and left, at the gate of the palace hall, the Princess's personal maid approached. Lou Xi Yan also stopped his footsteps, following Yan Ru Xuan with his eyes and saw her get further apart gradually. On the other side, Zhuo Qing's impatient voice was heard to say: "Who are you?"

Lou Xi Yan raised his eyes to look, blocking her path was the Emperor's personal chamberlain, Gao Jin.

Walking to Zhuo Qing's side, Lou Xi Yan protected her on his back, pretended to be puzzled, he asked: "Gao gonggong, what is the matter?"

Gao Jin cupped his hands to give courtesy, lowly answered: “The Emperor has announced that Prime Minister Lou and Miss Qing to enter the palace hall.”

There was no end to this!! Zhuo Qing’s face was black, she was extremely tired, what kind of words that could not be said for another day?!

Asking him and her together? Not likely, right, if really intended to ask him, why did Gao Jin go straight to Qing Feng. Based on his understanding to the Emperor, he would not be willing to let go of this matter, but he did not expect it to be this quick.

Lou Xi Yan did not perform an in depth investigation, raised his head gracefully and smiled lightly, answered: “Then I will ask to trouble Gao gonggong to lead the way.”

“I dare not accept the honor.” Gao Jin took along the two people together to walk out of the main hall.

Zhuo Qing’s face revealed irritability, Lou Xi Yan leisurely and quietly comforted and said: “Be at ease, we are merely facing the Emperor, nothing more, you have me.”

How could she be at ease ah, Zhuo Qing had some suffering words, the crucial problem was\_\_\_\_\_ she was not Qing Feng ah. She originally did not know what kind of relationship Qing Feng and that frenetic and overbearing man had.....

Sian’s notes:

Ok, you have noticed that there are several references when they call somebody who is older than them as “Old”. For example like Hu Xi Ang called his father “Old tough character” or Su Ling referred him as “Old General Hu”. In China, it’s very common to call somebody who is in the same generation as your father “Old”. The Chinese word is 老-lao. This is actually a form of respect for the older generation. Like a son can call his dad 老爸-lao ba (old dad) or 老妈-lao ma (old mom). I know in the western worlds, if you call somebody “old”, they’ll curse at you. Hehehe...

# Record of Washed Grievances Chapter 50: How Could It Be Like This?!

I'm posting this a couple hours earlier today. Enjoy!

I also want to clarify that we are nowhere near the end of this book. This book is split into two volumes. Volume one is from chapter 1 to chapter 55 and volume two is from chapter 56 to chapter 112. So we're not even half way yet... Not to worry, there are still plenty of sweet moments between ZQ & LXY and boring moments when LXY is not in the chapter. ☺ Happy 4th of July for US readers!! ☺☺

This chapter was edited by Din2.

Zhuo Qing sank into her own thought with Lou Xi Yan who was walking by her side, Lou Xi Yan had a normal appearance, Gao Jin lowered his head, covered up the complicated radiance on his eyes. Taking the two people to bypass the main hall towards the inner palace hall, zigzagging for a long way around afterwards, the three people stopped in front of the smaller main hall. There were candle flames inside the palace hall, nevertheless, the gate of the palace hall was closed tightly.

Zhuo Qing raised her eyes to look but unexpectedly she saw Qing Ling who disappeared from the main hall, she was looked after by an Imperial bodyguard. Two people's eyes met for a moment, she saw a lot of doubts in Qing Ling's eyes but she did not know how to explain either, because she was originally not the younger sister whom she was familiar with.

"The Emperor has an Imperial decree to announce that Qing Ling to enter the palace hall." Gao Jin's voice did not sound like the ordinary sharp palace eunuch's voice.

Qing Ling looked deeply at her one glance afterwards, advanced to walk immediately and unlatched the door of the palace hall. Zhuo Qing was still puzzled at that complicated glance that her eyes revealed a moment ago. Suddenly, there was a sound of a porcelain that was being smashed from inside

the palace hall.

She and Lou Xi Yan stood outside of the palace hall on the pavement laid with flagstones, from the far distance, they could not hear what was said from the inside, but the loud sound from inside was already enough to show that the atmosphere was absolutely grave.

Zhuo Qing was worried for Qing Ling, the door was opened suddenly from the inside, Qing Ling was supported by Gao Jin to come out, her body did not appear to have any injury, just her complexion was white that could scare people. Handing over Qing Ling to the Imperial bodyguard to look after, Gao Jin advanced to come over to Zhuo Qing immediately.

“Miss Qing, please follow this servant to enter the palace hall.” Zhuo Qing stared blankly, this Emperor still wanted to break through one by one ah?!

Sure enough as Zhuo Qing’s thought, Lou Xi Yan had not opened his mouth yet, Gao Jin already respectfully said: “Prime Minister Lou, the Emperor only announced Miss Qing to enter inside.”

Zhuo Qing frowned that he wanted to interrogate her by herself, even if she wanted to pretend to be naive, it would be somewhat difficult. Lou Xi Yan patted her shoulder softly, softly laughed and said: “Go, ok, I will be outside.”

Zhuo Qing raised her eyes to face his clear and calm’s slender eyes, this sentence was only common, but it made her heart feel secured indescribably, she should perhaps thank the heavens, let her passed through this encounter with him, right.

Let it be, ok, who was making her use someone else’s body, trying to escape this matter was also useless, releasing her smile and without hesitation, Zhuo Qing turned around to enter the inside palace hall. She walked steadily, naturally did not find that afterwards, Lou Xi Yan’s soft laugh was frozen on his lips, he narrowed his eyes slightly to make people not able to see anything clearly at this moment.

Zhuo Qing strode over to enter the inside palace hall, Gao Jing did not come in along either, rather he was standing outside the palace hall, and closed the gate of the palace hall.

Fine, ok, retreating to go out was not possible either, Zhuo Qing did not have any alternative but to continue to move forwards. There were several scattered broken porcelain on the ground, it must have been smashed a moment ago, right. Even though, this place here was not a spacious main hall, but it was still bigger than the common conference room, even so, Zhuo Qing could still see one glance at that man who was standing in the middle. His black gold and jade's hat were already gone, he had also changed the bright yellow ceremonial robe, the whole body was in a black brocade gown, cold grim eyes, his indefinite chest was moving up and down to show that his mood was not steady at the moment. Even though the candles inside the palace hall were not bright, his expression looked unclear, Zhuo Qing had already felt a profound and overtaking air that was threatening from this man's body.

Stopping her footsteps, Zhuo Qing no longer advanced, slightly lowered her head, her plan was to maintain the status quo, what the eyes did not see, the heart could not grieve over.

Both people were all silent, the surroundings sank into a deathly stillness, she could only hear Yan Hong Tian slightly muddy's breathing sound, Zhuo Qing remained unchanged, bowed her head and did not speak. Unfortunately, Yan Hong Tian did not have any patience.

"Raised you head." Lowly roaring sound was raised at the same time, Zhuo Qing only felt her chin was in pain, one big palm that was completely lacking any tenderness grabbed her lower jaw tightly, made her raised her head: "Did you think that you could escape by exchanging yourself from entering the palace? Three years ago, Zhen had already said that you could only be Zhen's woman in this life time, you could not escape."

The muffled voice was not loud at all but it was enough to make her heart feel palpitation when she listened to it, his eyes were burning fiercely and stirring restlessly to shake Zhuo Qing's mind with slight trembling. This man had too much aggressiveness and possessiveness, even though her chin was painful, Zhuo Qing was still silent as she had not yet figured out what was happening before. It was best for her to be silent, he basically did not need to use too much strength as he could just choke her to death.

Zhuo Qing's silence was equally enraged Yan Hong Tian: "What? You were able

to say virtuous words in the palace hall a moment ago, was it unbounded sight? You are completely mute now?”

Zhuo Qing could feel Yan Hong Tian’s hand along with his anger tightened up slowly, thinking, Zhuo Qing cautiously answered: “I have nothing to say, Qing Feng has entered the Prime Minister’s manor, I am only acting as a tribute from the Emperor’s decree.”

“One good Imperial order!” Zhuo Qing’s voice was just off, Yan Hong Tian was completely and violently in anger, practically gnashing his teeth, lowly roaring: “Zhen let Qing Feng go to the Prime Minister’s manor, but not you \_\_ Qing Ling.”

Qing Ling?!! Not feeling the pain on her chin, Zhuo Qing was stunned, she was Qing Ling?? Impossible, ok?!

Zhuo Qing’s mind suddenly flashed through Qing Ling’s complicated gaze, no way, if she was Qing Ling, then that woman from a moment ago was Qing Feng??

It was no wonder that Yan Hong Tian saw her strangely at that time, it turned out that he had never made a mistake, he always wanted Qing Ling!

Oh heaven, she was really confused!! Be calm, be calm!!

Watching attentively at the calm and cold woman in front of him, Yan Hong Tian suddenly smiled sarcastically: “Having not seen you for three years, you turned out to be a tremendous character unexpectedly and could persuade your own younger sister to substitute you to enter the palace. You could puzzle Lou Xi Yan in this short time and could still do autopsy to solve a case, truly uneasy to be accomplished ah.”

Breathing deeply and calming her mind, Zhuo Qing insisted and said: “You have recognized the wrong person, I am Qing Feng and not Qing Ling.” Everything was all his one sided statement, just in case he was just probing her?!

Would she still not admit it? Fine, then she must not blame him.

# Record of Washed Grievances Chapter 51: The Man's Thought (Part 1)

Sangti, did you bring the ropes? How about battery acid, lighter fluid and a zippo from indomnianooodle? And two assassins from flowerzblood? This is a good time to strangle YHT so he doesn't cause any problem to anybody anymore.

This chapter was edited by Din2.

Breathing deeply and calming her mind, Zhuo Qing insisted and said: "You have recognized the wrong person, I am Qing Feng and not Qing Ling." Everything was all his one sided statement, just in case he was just probing her?!

It seemed that if he did not provide the evidence, she was planning not to admit it to the end! Fine, then she must not blame him.

Yan Hong Tian's eyes were glittering but also sneering shadily, Zhuo Qing's heart was cool, darn it, she seemed to stir up trouble with him.

Sure enough, Yan Hong Tian's one hand pinched her lower jaw, the other hand suddenly pulled up her front jacket and ripped it open, her chest was cool. Grabbing her chin, Zhuo Qing would not bow but the clothing's shattering voice accompanied by a pain on her right shoulder, therefore she could also guess that she was already almost half naked.

Although she still had the inner clothing that wrapped her body, just like a modern's halter top clothing, she was not exposed too much but Zhuo Qing, however, unprecedentedly felt humiliated. Coldly looking at the man who was proud of himself just now, Zhuo Qing coldly said: "What do you still want to do!" If he believed that he would possess her, and she would just become his woman obediently, then she would let him know how stupid he was.

"You consider this embarrassing?" His gaze was wondering on Zhuo Qing's graceful figure, Yan Hong Tian seemed to enjoy completely Zhuo Qing's resentful eyes and humiliation. His hands were loosen up a little, slowly slipped towards

her nape to pull her to come over, one hand was still holding her waist, the other hand was passing through her nape to caress her earlobe, a muffled, hoarse and low groan sound echoed faintly: “You are destined to be Zhen’s person, there is no need to be embarrassed!”

Both powerful and big hands encircled her in his chest tightly, Zhuo Qing’s hands were put in between them horizontally, trying to push him with all her strength. Unfortunately, she had meager power to resist him, their bodies were still stucked together tightly.

His body was very warm, the hand was pressed against his chest, strong heartbeats followed by the waves of the palm, Zhuo Qing could feel his restless atmosphere.

“You.....” Zhuo Qing was still thinking to try to communicate with him, it was a fact that a man who had sexual desire did not want to communicate! With his hot lips, Yan Hong Tian kissed her lips, with his overbearingly hot lips, Zhuo Qing just felt muddle headed and was dizzy for a split second, but the scorching chest made Zhuo Qing to sober up immediately.

Not knowing when Yan Hong Tian’s hand started to caress her right chest, Zhuo Qing exerted her strength to struggle, after several times, she finally knew that it was impossible for her to throw him off on her own. Unexpectedly, Zhuo Qing bit his lips and tongue ferociously without restrained, she bit them ruthlessly. Yan Hong Tian groaned depressingly, she finally tasted a taste of blood very quickly.

Just as Zhuo Qing was planning to bite for one more time, Yan Hong Tian let go of her. Zhuo Qing retreated hurriedly, she stopped her footsteps once again after parting from him for several meters afterwards. Taking precautions by staring at him, she could finally breathe properly, Zhuo Qing took a deep breath, so he was playing crazy like this, she was so hot!

Using his thumb to wipe the traces of blood from the corner of his mouth, Yan Hong Tian unexpectedly laughed: “You are still very fierce.” The first time that he saw her was very different, but it was also good. He still preferred a little fierce woman because conquering her was more interesting.

His gaze was sweeping passed Zhuo Qing’s right chest, Yan Hong Tian’s

expression was dark again, coldly said: "Do you still dare to say that you are not Qing Ling now?" These past several years, he had investigated about her matter clearly, naturally he knew about the symbol on her shoulder, he wanted to see how she could still refuse to admit this time!

What was the meaning of that? He kissed her violently, just to prove that she was Qing Ling?!

Yan Hong Tian's eyes were staring at her right shoulder rigidly, Zhuo Qing bowed her head to look at her right shoulder bewilderingly. There was one small red character appeared faintly on the right shoulder near the chest that scared her to jump up. Not because of that one 'Ling' character that scared her, it was rather because of not understanding how her right chest could have a character. Using her hand to touch it, the skin was flat and smooth, a moment afterwards, the letter was more and more diluted, and finally disappeared.

This..... was the theory of this in the end?! Zhuo Qing was still shocked, Yan Hong Tian also saw something fishy, she saw that there was a seal on her body since she was a child, why did she express a surprise like this?!

Yan Hong Tian approached one more time, it made Zhuo Qing recovered eventually, it was not the time to research about the character now!!

Withdrawing one step, Zhuo Qing lowly shouted: "Wait a minute! I want to speak my mind!"

Yan Hong Tian, on the contrary, did not really want to step forward, both hands were on his chest and he was looking at her coldly.

Zhuo Qing's brain's was spinning rapidly, this body was Qing Ling's, but she actually appeared at Prime Minister's manor? How could she explain, how could she explain?!!

Miraculously, Zhuo Qing raised her head calmly, puzzlingly and bewilderingly answered: "During the trip to come here, the officials who sent us over were afraid that we, three sisters, were not well behaved. We had to drink medicine every day for half a month and remained unconscious and delirious. I had forgotten a lot of matters after waking up later on, everybody said that I was Qing Feng. I, myself did not know either that I had a character on my shoulder, I really did not have any impression on everything that you said a moment ago."

“Amnesia!?” Yan Hong Tian laughed heartily: “Qing Ling ah, Qing Ling, you really think that Zhen can be played around by you with a complete control!”

Who was playing with who now ah?! She was the one who was being played by his tricks, all right!!

Although disguising herself to ‘amnesia’ was really stupid, but except for this way, what could she still do?!

“If you do not believe me, I do not have any means to make you to believe me either, I speak the truth, you can go to inquire from the officials in Hao Yue.” She could not have lied about drinking the medicine. Slightly lowering her head, Zhuo Qing gracefully said: “This must be where the error happened, but since I already entered the gate of the Prime Minister’s manor, I should stay at Lou Xi Yan’s side.”

She unexpectedly did not want to stay by his side?! Everything was all her good plan, right, amnesia? She thought that he could not investigate and go to Hao Yue?! There was no matter that could be concealed from him in this whole world!

Coldly looking at her who was pretending to behave, he could be certain now, graceful and subdued style did not suit her one bit. Approaching Zhuo Qing step by step, Yan Hong Tian coldly groaned: “It seems that you forget your own identity, you absolutely do not have the qualification to choose! You think after Xi Yan knows your identity, your scam, he still wants you?!”

This man could not be moved by persuasion!! Fine, then she did not need to play a pitiful person either. Raising her head, Zhuo Qing proudly turned around and sneeringly said: “If I am not mistaken, Lou Xi Yan has said that I am his \_\_\_\_\_ madam at the main hall!”

Yan Hong Tian’s complexion suddenly dark: “Zhen has said that you can only be Zhen’s woman.”

Impossible!! Zhuo Qing’s heart knew that she, herself, could not contend against his strength at this time, Lou Xi Yan, forgive me. Deliberately frowning softly, Zhuo Qing answered in a low voice: “But I am already Lou Xi Yan’s woman at an earlier time.”

“What\_\_did\_\_you\_\_say!”

Yan Hong Tian was practically vomiting from between his teeth with a voice that would make people’s hearts trembling. But in any case, she certainly could not stay in the Imperial palace! Her heart already decided, Zhuo Qing lightly raised her eyebrows, laughingly said: “I have entered the Prime Minister’s manor for almost half a month, eating and living together with him, you will not think that we are only covered in quilt to have a simple chat, right.”

“Darn it!” Following the snarl, Zhuo Qing’s neck was in pain, the hand’s strength was without the slightest pity, she was simply unable to breathe. The blood immediately rushed forth to the top of her head, Zhuo Qing was profoundly aware that\_\_\_\_\_ he really wanted to choke her to death!!

“Save.... Save me....” The practically scattered and smashed cry for help’s sound, even she could not hear it clearly, who could still be able to save her?!

Just when Zhuo Qing, herself, believed that she would die soon, then a clear and moist voice came through from a distance: “The Emperor, Chen, Lou Xi Yan has an important matter to report.”

Sian’s notes:

Arrrrrgggg, YHT is a pig!!! I don’t like him in books 3 and definitely don’t like him in this chapter. I know, I know that he was just trying to prove a point that she was Qing Ling. But I have to say that Zhuo Qing is the Zhuo Qing that we all know. Hahaha... She even could lie to YHT. I was wondering when LXY would show up. Finally!!!

# Record of Washed Grievances Chapter 52: The Man's Thought (Part 2)

Another semi long chapter, almost 2,000 words. Our foxy PM is at it again.... I was literally cracking up laughing when I heard LXY's response on whether or not he had seen ZQ/QL's tattoo... Then his request at the end of the chapter made my day... Have a great weekend!

This chapter was edited by Din2.

"The Emperor, Chen, Lou Xi Yan has an important matter to report." A clear and moist voice came though from a distant.

Just when Zhou Qing, herself, believed that she would die soon, Yan Hong Tian finally let go of his hands.

Zhuo Qing escaped with her strength and fell on the ground, strived hard to breathe, she considered this personal experience just like Lou Xi Yan's asthma suffocating pain.

No longer looking at Zhuo Qing, Yan Hong Tian returned to the long table in front of the palace hall and sat down, clearly said: "Come in."

Lou Xi Yan was walking steadily to come, seeing Zhuo Qing clearly who was sitting on the ground with somewhat a torn clothing and distinct five fingerprints on her neck, he did not say anything, only walked in front of Yan Hong Tian to salute and say: "Pay respect to The Emperor."

Zhuo Qing recovered a little bit of her strength with great difficulty, she struggled to stand up and lifted her eyes to watch. Not sure whether Lou Xi Yan was intentionally or accidentally blocking her in front with his body to separate Yan Hong Tian's threatening line of sight.

Looking at Lou Xi Yan, Yan Hong Tian's complexion was somewhat complicated and he did not have the time to plunder at Zhuo Qing, Yan Hong Tian serenely asked: "Xi Yan, have you seen the character tattoo on her body?"

Oh no!

Zhuo Qing shouted secretly!

Yan Hong Tian's move was a good one, if Lou Xi Yan told him he had not seen it, in that way he would be able to guess that she might be lying and she had absolutely not been together with Lou Xi Yan. If Lou Xi Yan was a little bit intelligent, listening to his connotation to want to help her and say that he had seen the character tattoo, thus Lou Xi Yan was aware that she was Qing Ling, yet he wanted her, as a matter of fact, he deceived the monarch?!

Zhuo Qing's heart was anxious, the face could not have a slightest amount of expression either, because Yan Hong Tian's pair of black eyes were staring at them coldly. Both people had not exchanged expressions, Zhuo Qing's heart was cold partially.

Lou Xi Yan muttered to himself irresolutely for a moment, raised his head slowly, felt slightly embarrassed, he answered: "The sky was extremely dark, Chen had not seen it clearly, only saw vaguely that the chest seemed to have one character."

Zhuo Qing stared blankly, he.... had this answer unexpectedly..... Together with his embarrassing voice and facial expression, Zhuo Qing almost believed herself that things had really happened between them.

Although Yan Hong Tian's hands were behind his body, Zhuo Qing could still hear clearly when he was clenching both of his hands tightly in a fist, the joint of his hands were making rattling sounds! His face looked like he wanted to beat people with his fists, Zhuo Qing really wanted to laugh three times heartily, Lou Xi Yan was really a genius!!

Wanting to praise Lou Xi Yan in her heart nicely, Zhuo Qing suddenly thought of a doubt, she herself did not know that she had one character on her body, how did Lou Xi Yan know that she had one character on her body and still knew that it was on her chest?!

When Zhuo Qing was confused with this one question, Yan Hong Tian's impatient voice lowly yelled: "Someone comes, bring in that other Qing family's woman to Zhen."

Qing Feng was pushed by the boorish Imperial bodyguards to enter the inside of the palace hall, stumbling for several steps afterwards, she finally stood firm.

Raising her eyes to see Zhuo Qing's disarrayed clothing in an embarrassing way, Qing Feng's eyes immediately perked up in anger.

Yan Hong Tian's sharp eagle like eyes were tightening at Qing Feng, and he asked: "Who are you after all?"

Without any hesitation, Qing Feng coldly spit out two words: "Qing Ling." She would not let her fragile elder sister stay inside the palace with this oppressive individual!!

She still dared to lie unexpectedly, fearless woman! Yan Hong Tian's shady voice was heard by Zhuo Qing and made her trembling unconsciously: "Zhen will give you a final chance, you want to speak the truth or you want to lose your head."

Complexion was the same as before, however, her eyes did not have a trace of retreat, Qing Feng insisted stubbornly and answered: "I am Qing....."

Her neck was still painful from the sting, Zhuo Qing was absolutely convinced that this overtaxing man was not joking. If that stubborn woman still insisted that she was Qing Ling again, she would wait for her death in the next quarter hour! Zhuo Qing stepped forward one step to interrupt her words hurriedly and said towards Yan Hong Tian: "You obviously have already known that I am Qing Ling a moment ago, there is no need to make things difficult for her either."

She was Qing Ling!! After carefully reckoning everything that had happened tonight outside the palace hall a moment ago, he already guessed this answer. Lou Xi Yan's expression was gloomy, still watching any change in her behavior silently and he was not saying anything.

"Did you admit that exchanging an identity to enter the palace was your plan now?" She had better not telling him about any amnesia's excuse!!

Unfortunately, Zhuo Qing's response was not reaching his heartfelt wish, she still answered as before: "I had already explained before, the officials gave me medicine for half a month during the escort. I was always remained unconscious, I found out that there were a lot of things that I did not remember when I woke up. I, myself could not remember who I was, they all said that I was Qing Feng, I, myself would always believe that I was Qing Feng. I entered the palace today because I was anxious to meet my own sisters, I clearly managed to find out who

I was after all? What had happened about this matter?” She said these words so Qing Feng and Lou Xi Yan could hear that she was not Qing Ling and there were a lot of things that she was simply unable to explain, amnesia was the best excuse that she could use.

Sure enough, Yan Hong Tian was in a rage once again, lowly roared to say: “Do not use amnesia to fool Zhen, if you have amnesia, you can still speak frankly about autopsy at the main hall, can provide assistance to solve the case, then if you do not have amnesia, what can you still do!?”

Amnesia was not an idiocy anyway!! Zhuo Qing really wanted to roll her eyes, but it was not the time now, sighing innocently, Zhuo Qing answered: “I only have amnesia, forget a lot of the past events, but those autopsy method is like having a meal as far as I am concerned, the same as writing characters. I merely could not remember who gave me those things, that was all.” In short, all the matter that could not be explained would be blamed to amnesia, it would be just right.

“What a good amnesia!” Contrary to extreme anger, he was laughing, Yan Hong Tian looked towards Qing Feng, coldly groaned: “Do you or do you not want to say that you, yourselves have amnesia also?”

“I do not have amnesia, I clearly know who I am, myself.” Remember it even clearer, who caused their whole family’s bankruptcy and deaths, who caused them, sisters to be separated in life and death!!

These two women, one had amnesia, one assumed someone’s name and took her place, they were conforming really good! Yan Hong Tian’s voice sneeringly said: “Continue talking, Zhen actually wants to see, you all can still fabricate what matter next!”

Quietly thinking of the past events, she was the one who persuaded them to destroy their appearances, she was also the one who insisted on killing themselves. Her stubbornness and selfishness, not only did it fail to accomplish anything, but also harmed her elder sister and younger sister. This time, she wanted Yan Hong Tian to take revenge on her own affair, she would surely not let her sister who had amnesia to suffer anymore harm.

Restraining her vicious words, Qing Feng gave the explanation: “We did not

want to deceive anybody. When we tried to kill ourselves at the broken temple at that time, elder sister was standing in the middle in order to hold my hand and my younger sister's hands. The officials who escorted us, rescued me and I heard hazily that they called me Qing Ling, I was still alive. Afterwards, we were given medicine everyday just like what my elder sister was saying. I was already in the palace when I was awoken. Later on, I thought they were both died, I, myself did not want to live either so I tried to smash the flower vase on you yesterday. The reason why I insisted that I, myself was Qing Ling was because the person the Emperor wanted was Qing Ling. I was already sent to enter the palace and from that moment on, I could only be Qing Ling, no matter who I was in the past."

This Prime Minister Lou seemed to be good towards elder sister, if elder sister and him were together, she would feel relieved.

"Absolutely disgraceful!"

She unexpectedly used suicide to escape from him!! Could it be that these were all the so called accidents arising from many causes?!

Yan Hong Tian's pair of eyes emitted cold rays, almost came out of the holes to stare at Zhuo Qing, at the same time, it was sufficient to prove that he found himself in a rage at this moment. The inside of the main hall sank into deathly stillness once again.

For a very long time, the silent Lou Xi Yan suddenly stepped forwards one step, lowly said: "The Emperor, please calm down, is it possible or not to listen to Chen speaks several sentences?"

"Speak." Towards Lou Xi Yan, Yan Hong Tian was always polite at least.

"This matter could happen like this was because Hao Yue's officials sent the sisters to the wrong places, the matter had already happened. No matter who they were, it was already too late to go back. Chen wanted to talk to The Emperor about this matter today, precisely to wish and ask the Emperor to grant a wedding to this woman who was delivered to enter Chen's manor, granting Chen a wife."

Bang!! (A loud sound).

Yang Hong Tian's hands slapped the top of the long table ferociously, it let out

a loud sound, everyone who heard it was fearful, not limited to the people who were inside the palace hall, even Gao Jin's heartbeat who was guarding outside the palace hall was trembling incessantly when he heard it.

Sian's notes:

Finally, the moment of truth for these two "sisters"... I felt sad when Qing Feng was recalling what happened at the broken temple. But I guess I could understand more now why the author, Qian Lu, really made Qing Feng's life way too miserable compared to the lives of the other two "sisters". I supposed Qing Feng was trying to pay off her "debts" for insisting to damage their face and killing themselves. So sad...

On the brighter note, LXY, LXY, you have never failed to amaze me. Boldly asking YHT to bestow a marriage to ZQ when he knows YHT still wants to get Qing Ling back at all costs. Ahhhhh... My kind of guy!!!

I have to say that I usually despise any amnesia plot in the drama because it's just way too cliché but I have to say that in this particular situation, an amnesia will be the only good answer or plot.

# Record of Washed Grievances Chapter 53: Secret Battle

This chapter was edited by Din2.

Bang!! (A loud sound)

Yang Hong Tian's hands ferociously slapped the top of the long table, letting out a loud sound, everyone who heard it was fearful, not limited to the people who were inside the palace hall, even Gao Jin's heartbeat who was guarding at the outside of the palace hall was trembling incessantly when he heard it.

He wanted to marry her!

Once these words came out, Yan Hong Tian's rage was burning, Zhuo Qing was stunned, Qing Feng was absent minded for a moment..... "You said that you wanted to marry her as a wife just now?"

The inside of the palace hall was deathly silent, Yan Hong Tian's low voice was especially gloomy and cold. Zhuo Qing and Qing Feng looked one glance, unconsciously swallowed their salivas. Only Lou Xi Yan was remained in that respectful and tranquil attitude, as if he had not seen Yan Hong Tian's angry appearance, calmly answered: "Yes."

"Impossible." The sound came out from pressing in between his teeth, but not knowing whether he was angry towards Lou Xi Yan or towards Zhuo Qing, in short, only the chilly wind was blowing.

Glaring at Lou Xi Yan, Yan Hong Tian did not have a good complexion just now, clearly annoyed and said: "Lou qing (high ranking official) jia (family), you are equivalent to a Qiong Yue's first rank prime minister, she is a tribute from a small country, absolutely does not fit to become your wife. If you really want to take a wife urgently, Zhen will immediately bestow you a wedding with Princess Chao Yun. The families are well matched in term of social status, talented man and beautiful woman."

"Chen and Princess Chao Yun are always scrupulously abided by a ruler and minister rules, Chen does not dare to have any wrong wish." He would request to

be granted the marriage, firstly because of Qing Ling, secondly because of Yan Ru Xuan. If he got married soon, it would also let her to break off the long wish shortly.

Yan Hong Tian coldly groaned: “Zhen will only bestow a marriage between you and Xuan-er, as for these two people, they are exchanging identities and fooling the monarch, also randomly lying and falsifying, they should be in the Imperial prison while they are being investigated!”

“The Emperor is bright, their words are not necessarily lies, as long as we send someone to go to Hao Yue to meet the officials who have sent them here to seek for confirmation, naturally we can know whether or not they actually speak the truth. Chen and Qing Ling have interacted for half a month, Chen also believes that she is not this kind of person, additionally hopes for the Emperor’s clear investigation.”

“Everything will wait until their investigation afterwards, then we will make a decision, they will have to go to the Imperial prison for now to wait for the investigation.” Inquiring, he absolutely must inquire, he, Yan Hong Tian was unable to tolerate a trace of deception and trick. It would be best that their words were genuine, otherwise he would let them know what the consequence was to deceive him! But they could only stay in the Imperial prison at this time.

Zhuo Qing actually had not exposed too much fear, Qing Feng’s face also showed only stubbornness, but Lou Xi Yan’s eyes showed a trace of anxiety.

“Chen is requesting earnestly that the Emperor will grant Qing Ling to return to Chen’s manor, she will be guarded at the Prime Minister’s manor. Before the investigation is completed, Chen will not allow her to go for even half a step out of the Prime Minister’s manor.” Staying at that prison place, a person would be unable to forget it forever, even if she came out later on, she would not be same person.

Lou Xi Yan was calm from the beginning to the end, his face rarely had any wave, but he repeatedly was offering words of advice, Yan Hong Tian looked at his expression with more and more cold staring.

Heaven ah, what was going on with Lou Xi Yan today? Even though he was making a supreme effort to protect and make Zhuo Qing touched emotionally,

but she was still inevitably anxious for him. After all, that Emperor looked as if he was in a bad mood to be provoked. Qing Feng was exceptionally satisfied with this future older sister's husband, he seemed to be warm and a gentle man unexpectedly. He actually had this kind of courage, he could let elder sister to depend on him! But..... hesitating to look towards that high position terrible man, Lou Xi Yan would not only live for today, right..... Fortunately, their anticipation of blood splashing on the scene did not happen, Yan Hong Tian coldly withdrew his line of sight, lowly shouted: "Gao Jin."

Immediately the one who guarded outside the palace hall, Gao Jin's body was already sweating profusely, answered: "The servant is here."

"Take them outside of the palace hall to wait, Zhen wants to speak and discuss with the Prime Minister."

"Yes." Gao Jin hurriedly went to open the door, took these two women to go out, and urgently closed the door of the palace hall.

Yan Hong Tian walked to advance towards Lou Xi Yan, two men were standing and facing each other at the main hall. One was as if he was a scorching sun up in the sky, awe-inspiringly domineering. One was as if he was an azure ocean bright moon, calm as a dark blue.

After for a very long time, Yan Hong Tian snorted: "Say it, ok. I want to listen to the truth."

Even though he grew up together with Lou Xi Yan relatively well, but ever since he ascended the throne, Xi Yan insisted on to be a ruler and minister from the beginning and would not abandon it. It was usually rare for him to regard this emotional feeling for a woman and to be persistent like this, Xi Yan was very unusual, instead making him cool headed.

Yan Hong Tian did not use Zhen to call himself, Lou Xi Yan also changed the appellation, this was they were tacit understanding after all these years. Somewhat helplessly shaking his head, Lou Xi Yan smily sighed and said: "I want to bring her back to the manor because she can cure my illness." According to his understanding of him, this reason was better than saying he liked Qing Ling, it would be easier to achieve his goal to take her away.

"What?!" Yan Hong Tian was alarmed, Xi Yan's illness was already from a long

time, how many Imperial Physicians tried to cure the illness, but yet, Qing Ling could cure it? His heart was still somewhat not trusting: “Did you say the truth?!”

Lou Xi Yan nodded to answer: “The last time when I had an outbreak, she was by my side. If it was not because of her that day, it was possible that I could not speak with you anymore.” In fact, she really did not do anything that night, only incessantly asked him to breathe, but in order to make Yan Hong Tian believe, he could only persuade him like this.

“That day, there was a maid in your room, it was her?!” Recalling the circumstance about her on that day when he walked to pass her, Yan Hong Tian’s complexion was cold.

“En.”

Looking towards Lou Xi Yan’s serene face, Yan Hong Tian slightly narrowed his eagle eyes, with a cold sound, he interrogated: “You want to marry her because she can cure your illness?”

Hesitating for a moment, Lou Xi Yan answered: “It is not completely like that.”

Yan Hong Tian lightly raised his double edged sword eyebrows, lowly said: “Then, you really like her?!”

Lou Xi Yan’s serene face flashed through one trace of panic, brows tightly knitted, he could not be frank and straightforward like a moment ago. He was completely silent, his heart had a premonition that made him anxious and frightened. Sure enough, his shoulder sank, a big hand heavily pressed down on his shoulder, Yan Hong Tian’s somewhat excited and somewhat chilly laughter echoed on the side of his ear: “Xi Yan, this is the second time you say it to me, you like that same thing.”

Sian’s notes:

That last sentence above “...., you like that same thing.” We purposely use “thing” instead of person. The actual words used 东西-dong xi, which could be translated as thing, stuff, or person. At first, I used “person” because they were talking about ZQ but then when we read chapter 55 and found out what was the first thing that both of them liked, we decided to change the word from person to thing. It would make more sense to use the word “thing” when you all read

chapter 55.

## Record of Washed Grievances Chapter 54: Qing Feng

Sigh... This was a sad chapter. I'm always sad with anything that is related to Qing Feng. I feel so sorry for her life... But I think Qing Feng is the strongest sister compare to Zhuo Qing & Gu Yun. That's why even though I'm not fond of reading book 3, but I force myself to read it for Qing Feng.

This chapter was edited by Din2.

### Outside The Palace Hall

It was almost midnight , the moon was already misty and did not have that magnificent and noisy feast. Even though it was still inside the imperial palace's courtyard, it was also difficult to stop the erosion of the night. The moonlight was bleak, hiding behind the precious forest but it was still mixed with the traces of the moon. The chilly night wind was somewhat cool, but just enough to blow people's mind to be awaken.

In front of the palace hall, two women with similar body shape's appearances were looking face to face mutually. One person's expression looked excited, her eyes were filled with sorrow. The other person looked somewhat awkward.

"Elder sister, you.... really do not remember me?" Looking at her elder sister's eyes whom she had not seen for half a month, Qing Feng felt pain in her heart. Looking at her sister's eyes that were bright and calm, she could no longer see the faintly pampering and the warm tenderness like in the past.

"I...." Zhuo Qing opened her mouth wanting to speak something, but she could only change into three words at the end: "I am sorry." Even though it was not her wish to occupy someone else's body, but it was already a fact that could not be changed.

Responding to Qing Feng, Zhuo Qing's heart was more anxious with Lou Xi Yan who was inside the room. She could not hear any sound so it meant that she did not know what happened inside, Zhuo Qing's heart was in a mess.

Looking at Gao Jin who was standing to guard the gate of the palace hall, Zhuo Qing was somewhat puzzled because he did not hand them over to the Imperial

bodyguards rather he let them stand at the corner to wait. Thus, they were able to have the opportunity to talk, did he do this intentionally or unintentionally?

“I was the one who should be sorry to you, if it was not because of me who insisted on killing ourselves, it would not cause you not to remember who you were.” Elder sister was cold and detached towards her, it was because of her own’s sin. Just thinking when Qing Ling woke up not knowing who she was and helpless, Qing Feng was bursting in self guilt once again, losing her memory should be so terrifying?!

Zhuo Qing recovered, the woman who was in front of her did not have that stubbornness and icy arrogant like the one inside the palace hall a moment ago. She was blindly blaming herself and it made Zhuo Qing somewhat looked to quietly comfort and say: “Do not blame yourselves too much, the matter has already happened, the most important thing is that I am alive and well now, right?” Even though I was no longer the original person.

Qing Feng was still as before lowering her head, she had thought about this foolish attempt to commit suicide once, Zhuo Qing reminded her again and said: “But this killing oneself matter can not be done again in the future, only the weak will choose to escape and surrender. You should not be this kind of person.”

The weak would choose to use suicide to escape, was it right? As it turned out, all along, she seek to pursue integrity and with unyielding character, unexpectedly, it was just a sign of weakness!

Slowly raising her head, Qing Feng was staring at the direction of the inside palace hall, coldly answered: “You can feel relieved, I will not kill myself again because the person who should be dead is not ourselves!” It was Hao Yue’s incapable ruler who caused the death of their parents, and that instigator who was inside!

Her bright eyes were bursting out some hatred, it made Zhuo Qing slightly stump for words, Qing Feng’s vicious currents on her body made her uneasy, unfortunately, it was only for a brief split second, she recovered as before once again.

“By the way, have you seen little sister?” Since she could come and enter the

Imperial palace, it should be easier to see little sister, right.

Zhuo Qing shook her head: "I have not."

She was somewhat disappointed and somewhat concerned, Qing Feng sighed and said: "That General Su does not look like a good person, I am worried that little sister can be bullied by him, she is still very young."

"Be at ease, ok. Su Ling as a General, his cold and uncommunicative natures are also very normal. Even though he can not be regarded as a scholar but he also is not an impertinent husband." Briefly interacting at the main hall, she actually felt that this person, Su Ling was not bad. There was an existence of the military leader's spirit and also did not lose to the cultural official's poise, his words were not often for the whole evening but he was actually paying attention to everything.

This kind of man would not think of doing something unworthy and make things difficult for a woman, certainly, if that woman was more violent than the man, that would be another matter..... Qing Feng was not as optimistic as Zhuo Qing, Qing Mo's nature was timid, ordinarily they would protect her, helped her to make a decision, what should she do since she was all alone now?! Why were their destinies always being manipulated by other people?!

Breathing deeply because she was afraid that her elder sister would be anxious, Qing Feng repressed her raging emotion, tried to calm down and said: "If Prime Minister Lou is able to persuade the Emperor to take you away, you go immediately to follow him, it is totally better than two people to go to the Imperial prison together, also, do not enter the palace to come and see me in the future."

"Why?" She was not Qing Ling, originally, she had never had any plan to enter the palace again, but Qing Feng was deliberately confessing, Zhuo Qing thought it was somewhat fishy.

Qing Feng was slightly alarmed, could it be that elder sister saw anything? Telling herself to calm down, lightly shaking her head, Qing Feng deliberately and consciously explained: "Because the Emperor harbors evil intention towards you, if you go out, it will be better that you do not go walk right into the trap again. You do not need to worry about me, I will take care of myself properly. If your

health recovers, just let people to bring me the verbal message, that will be enough.”

Something was amiss, her eyes were flickering, expression was deliberate, her mind surely had a plan. She did not know what she wanted to do after all, Zhuo Qing could only warn: “Qing Feng, be sure to consider it carefully before you do anything, an impulse action will not have any advantage at any time.”

Zhuo Qing sharpness and penetrating’s personalities made Qing Feng amazed endlessly, this person, was she really her elder sister?! Could amnesia really change someone this much? Was it good or bad that she changed like this?!

Qing Feng was still in doubt, but the male voice from the inside of the hall that could make people’s heart were frightened echoed again: “Somebody comes, bring the two of them to come in.”

Gao Jin looked towards them, both of them did not make any difficulty for him, obediently walked towards the inside of the palace hall.

Entering the inside of the palace hall, Zhuo Qing immediately discovered that the atmosphere was somewhat amiss.

Yan Hong Tian’s complexion was no longer dark, in between his eyebrows was still carrying a trace of dubious smiling expression. Looking at his expression also changed more and more strange than just when he was possessed and angry, it made her have even more goose bumps..... And Lou Xi Yan’s expression was still tranquil and calm, but his forehead seemed to have a heavy load in his mind, what did they discuss after all a moment ago?

“Qing family’s sisters, your matter about the identity exchange, Zhen will investigate it clearly later. Naturally will give you all the final conclusion, considering that Qing Ling is possible to have amnesia, this matter is pardonable. Zhen will allow Prime Minister Lou to bring you back to the manor to be looked after, before the truth is clear, you are not allowed to go out of the manor.”

Yan Hong Tian unexpectedly agreed to let her return to Lou Xi Yan’s manor?

What was going on after all? What did Lou Xi Yan do that could change Yan Hong Tian’s decision unexpectedly?!

She was very curious.

Looking towards Qing Feng, Yan Hong Tian coldly groaned and said: “As for Qing Feng, even if the officials from Hao Yue have made the mistake to deliver the wrong person, your mind is clear. Entering the palace and still assuming somebody’s name and taking her place, it is already a criminal to deceive the monarch, so you will go to the Imperial prison immediately and stay there until the truths about the investigation is clear later, and then you will be convicted.”

Go to the Imperial prison!

Qing Feng appeared to be prepared, deeply breathing, she was still standing proudly, neither ask for forgiveness nor crying.

The Imperial prison was absolutely not a good place. Although she and Qing Feng did not have feeling as sisters, but her heart really admired her. Could she really not able to save her? Zhuo Qing thought deeply. Lou Xi Yan’s clear and moist voice lowly echoed: “The Emperor is wise, Chen asks to be excused.”

“En.” Lightly waving his hand, Yan Hong Tian unexpectedly did not really make things difficult for them.

“Go.” Pulling Zhuo Qing’s hand, Lou Xi Yan shook his head lightly. Zhuo Qing understood clearly that she should not act blindly without thinking. Lou Xi Yan rescued her and it was already not easy. Turning around to look one glance at the meager woman who was standing at the main hall, she also happened to turn her head around.

Facing Zhuo Qing with a slight smile, Qing Feng completely turned her head around, no longer looking at her. Accepting the matter, she needed to bear this alone.

Yan Hong Tian, it would be best that you did not let me live, otherwise....

Lou Xi Yan was leading Zhuo Qing to leave, her brain had this lingering feeling, about Qing Feng with that same gorgeous fireworks and momentary smiling expression. For the first time, Zhuo Qing profoundly realized that she was too powerless in this different era.

# Record of Washed Grievances Chapter 55: Anxious

We're finding out in this chapter on what was the "thing" that both YHT & LXY liked at the same time for the first time years ago when they were both kids. Over 2,000 words again!

This chapter marked the end of volume one.

This chapter was edited by Din2.

The chariot finally went out of the Imperial palace and went straight back to the Prime Minister's manor. The vehicle speed was somewhat quick and slightly bumpy.

Inside the chariot, Zhuo Qing was looking at Lou Xi Yan who was beside her and pondering in the chariot from when he entered the chariot, her heart was still somewhat ashamed and uneasy. If it was not because of her, he did not need to offend Yan Hong Tian, right, after all, that was the Emperor.

Zhuo Qing lowly sighed and said: "If you want to ask me something, just ask, ok."

Lou Xi Yan recovered, looked towards her, softly smiled and said: "You have amnesia, if I ask, can you still be able to answer?"

"I.... can not." She had so many things that she could not explain to him. Lou Xi Yan lightly shrugged his shoulder, this being the case, there was no need to ask too many expressions. Once again leaning her head, Zhuo Qing called once again: "Lou Xi Yan, I have questions that I want to ask you."

Lou Xi Yan was quietly looking at her, waiting for her to raise the questions: "How long will Qing Feng be in prison? According to your understanding towards Yan Hong Tian, how will he punish her?" Just before leaving, watching that Qing Feng's smile, it always made her heart frightened and anxious. If something would happen to her, she could not feel relieved either.

"Making a round trip from Qiong Yue takes at least half a month, if the case is investigated clearly then she will be able to come out freely after about half a month. As for whether or not she will receive any punishment, I do not know."

Yan Hong Tian always handled matters based on his mood, he would not know what kind of mood he would have at that time. Maybe Qing Feng would die, maybe she would be given away, also maybe she would continue to stay at the palace.

At least half a month..... Staying inside the prison for half a month was a horrible matter. Zhuo Qing hesitated for a long time, she still said: “I know that this request will somewhat put you in a difficult situation, but I still want to say it.”

Looking at her awkward and remorseful appearance, Lou Xi Yan already knew what she wanted to say, mildly smiled and said: “I will use up my ability to make her life a little well while she is in the Imperial prison.”

Lou Xi Yan’s consideration of her need made her grateful: “Thank you.”

Lightly shaking his head, Lou Xi Yan answered: “I may not necessarily be able to help, she is inside the palace after all.”

Deeply breathing, Zhuo Qing lowly said: “I thanked you for taking me out of the Imperial palace.” Confronting Yan Hong Tian, that kind of man, needed too much courages. She admitted that she was somewhat scared. When Lou Xi Yan was pulling her hand to leave, her heartbeat went very fast, maybe because she was touched emotionally, maybe because she separated herself from danger, again, maybe because her heart was moved.

Lou Xi Yan had a heavy appearance, Zhuo Qing discreetly closed her mouth, her head was leaning against the window, closing her eyes to rest and no longer disturbed him.

The great waves on her eyes were very beautiful, he finally saw them but thinking about Yan Hong Tian’s words a moment ago, he sank into anxiety once again. Because the first time he said that he liked a certain thing, the conclusion for his liking was the end of the life of that certain thing. It was during that very same year when the Late Emperor wanted Yan Hong Tian to be adopted by the Empress who had not produced any heir. This Empress who happened to be his paternal aunt, Lou Su Xin. As a result, he often entered the palace to accompany his paternal aunt. He and Yan Hong Tian became good friends, just like cousins (表兄弟-biao xiong di – male cousins via a female line).

Afterwards, he also had several important minister's sons and was able to have access to study with the Princes together at the palace. There was one year that The Late Emperor bestowed a newborn white tiger as a reward, the Imperial teacher would draw up the theme of discussion, the scholars would have competition. Whoever was the winner, he could receive that white tiger. Numerous Princes were eager to give it a try, this was in front of The Late Emperor to display their own's great opportunity, anybody also did not want to give up.

But he was only interested with the small stuff, the white tiger was not even one month, it looked so simple, honest and adorable, snow white's fur felt so soft and comfortable on his hand. He really liked it and remembered at that time, Yan Hong Tian also draped over his shoulder and asked: "You really like that white tiger?"

He exerted some strength to nod.

The competition began soon, the first round was chess skill competition, second round was poetry composition competition, and third round was archery competition. Not unexpectedly, after the first two competitions and entering the final round, there were only two of them left.

Archery was never his strong suit but he was always tranquil and even tempered fortunately, the arrow would settle quickly and evenly and hitting the center of the target was not a difficult matter. His head looked one glance at the side of Yan Hong Tian, he was exceptionally excited towards that small tiger's warming eyes. In determining to be a winner, Lou Xi Yan hesitated for a moment, even if the small tiger was adorable but his health was not good. His father would probably not let him to keep the animal. Yan Hong Tian seemed to like the small tiger also, if the small tiger returned to him, it was also good. This way the Late Emperor would also praise Yan Hong Tian, if he entered the palace, he could also see it frequently.

His heart hesitated for a moment, the arrow on his hand was naturally unstable, he could shoot within the range of the red center target but comparing to Yan Hong Tian's right in the center of target, the outcome could already be seen.

Next, the people at the scene were all stunned at once, Yan Hong Tian suddenly pulled up a long arrow and aimed at the small white tiger that was on the ground walking just a moment ago. The long arrow quickly and fiercely pierced the neck of the white tiger, the red blood washed away the pure white fur. Yan Hong Tian threw down the bow and arrow from his hand, ferociously glared at him one glance, he did not say anything and just ran away.

That year, Yan Hong Tian was 10 years old and he was 11 years old. The past event was like a tide, he did not understand during that time, the only thing that Yan Hong Tian wanted was to win at all costs during a confrontation. Therefore, when he believed that he did not want that reward, so the conclusion for it was\_\_ dead.

Slowly leaning his head, the woman who was next to him was breathing evenly, her complexion was peaceful. What would be her ending this time?  
Would he harm her or help her?!

Lightly holding Zhuo Qing’s hand, Lou Xi Yan already decided that he would not let her to have any harm this time because he liked her. She looked at his expression just now.

Zhuo Qing’s eyelids slightly moved, she allowed Lou Xi Yan to hold her hand.  
The chariot was still speeding towards the direction of the Prime Minister’s manor.

.....  
The purplish red light muslin curtain, layer upon layer was hanging down on the outside of the screen, the night wind was gently blowing to raise the layer of ripples. The faint smell of an incense filled the interior, the pounding of the wooden fish was making a thumping sound, echoing deeply into the night, it was especially clear. A married woman who was kneeling on a brocade praying mat can be seen vaguely inside the hanging screen, one hand was striking the wooden fish and the other hand was turning the red sandalwood Buddhist prayer’s beads.

The old elderly lady stood before the light muslin, hesitating whether or not she should enter in, hesitating for a moment, she still did not dare to say

anything, just about to withdraw to go out, a conspicuous female voice sounded impatiently: “What happened?”

The old elderly lady hurriedly advanced for one step, respectfully answered: “The Emperor and Prime Minister Lou were arguing today.”

The married woman’s eyes were slightly closed, as if she did not pay any attention, lowly asked: “Because of what matter?”

“Because of a woman.”

The hand that was striking the wooden fish stopped in the middle of the air, the married woman’s eyes that were always closed, slowly opened, full of interest, she asked: “Who has that much charm?” Her eyes swept past a trace of amazement, a trace of curiosity, it was more so than as if she was happy.

Not daring to have any trace of hesitation, the old elderly lady made some inquired about the affair one by one and said: “It was the woman who was delivered from Hao Yue, Prime Minister Lou brought her to the Palace banquet tonight. She stole the show, the Emperor made use of her idea, after the end of the banquet, inside the palace hall, the Emperor got angry several times. I heard that it seemed that they delivered the wrong person to enter the palace, originally, Qing Ling was supposed to be delivered to the palace but at the end she was sent to the Prime Minister’s place, the one who was in the palace now was her younger sister.”

There was still this kind of matter? In that case, the Emperor had already seen Qing Ling before, therefore he was suddenly angry. Nevertheless, appearing to devise a plan to use something as a pretext to make a fuss? The married woman laughed grimly, sure enough, even a hero still had a weakness for the charm of a beautiful woman.

“Continue talking.”

“Afterwards, the Emperor and Prime Minister Lou had a private discussion for a half shichen (1 hour), but did not know what they were saying, however, Qing Ling was still taken by Prime Minister in the end. Her younger sister, Qing Feng was sent to the Imperial prison.” Able to make discreet inquiries, only these, the old elderly lady was silenced and standing outside of the curtain, waiting for the order from the person inside.

For a very long time, the married woman finally spoke, only faintly said: “Withdraw, ok.” The old elderly lady did not dare to stay anymore, quietly withdrew to go out.

In a moment, the thumping wooden fish sound echoed again, the married woman closed up her eyes one more time and the corner of her mouth seemed to have a sarcastic laugh. Her attitude was not well matched while she was quietly meditating inside the Buddha’s main hall and with the calm and unhurried sound of the wooden fish.

Sian’s notes:

Yikes, I seriously thought that I would have a change of heart in term of being misunderstood in YHT’s real character. I should have known that he really was a ferocious person. He would rather kill that small white tiger. No wonder the title of this chapter was anxious. LXY would be anxious on what YHT would do to ZQ since they both were fighting for the same “thing” (in this case a woman) again.

Hmmmm... Who is that married woman??? So mysterious. I’m guessing that she is YHT’s mother, the West Empress Dowager???

On another note, I found out that a lot of the chapters in volume 2 were very long... The average chapters in volume 1 were between 2.5 – 4 pages long and occasionally the chapters would be longer between 5-6 pages. However, starting chapter 59, the chapters were between 6-8.5 pages long. Some chapters were almost 4,000 words. It was crazy translating these long chapters and I could not produce as many chapters in a week as I used to. So I’m not sure if I can continue to post 3 chapters in a week. I want to ask for your opinions on this. You have essentially two options: A. Keep posting 3 chapters in a week but I will split the long chapters into 2 parts or B. Reduce the posting to 2 or maybe even 1 a week and keep the long chapter in one whole chapter. Which one will you prefer me to do?

# Record of Washed Grievances Chapter 56: Paying A Visit

Sorry for the posting confusion. This chapter was my Guinea pig to try the scheduled posting. I was still confused with the time difference so apparently I did pick the wrong time and thus this way to early posting than the usual posting time at 11:30 AM Eastern standard time.

This chapter was edited by Din2.

Boring!

Boring to death!

Zhuo Qing really felt like a worthless criminal.

During the time of work previously, waiting for a three days vacation, it was extremely difficult. There were forever cases that could not be finished, she really wished to sleep at home for three days and three nights instead of taking care of her cases that had so many problems! It was good now, if she wanted to sleep, she could sleep until she was dead. But she was uncomfortable all over, just liked if she had countless small insects in her body. She began to cherish the day when she slept less than six hours in her life..... Seven days, from the day she returned from the palace until now, seven days had passed.

Nothing had happened either, maybe strictly speaking, if anything had happened, she did not know either.

Yan Hong Tian did not come to trouble her, Lou Xi Yan left early and returned late every day. She could do whatever thing inside the Prime Minister's manor, except going out..... But what could she do? Books with regard to autopsy were practically not in existence here, she adjusted to poetry and song, history was not her interest either so her method of idling away at this era every day was\_\_\_\_\_staring her eyes at the vast lake that was in front of her, lost in thought..... "Hey, you were usually at home just standing and being lost in thought to pass a day?" A clear and cast body of water could really make people's mood feel good, but please excuse her profanity, looking at the

beautiful scenery for a long time again could also be fatigue, ok.

Propping her cheeks sluggishly for a very long time, Lou Xi Wu finally recovered, lowly shouted: “You are still lost in thought!”

Ok, I was not lost in thought, that was only thinking about ‘spring’. (See below). Zhuo Qing lowly laughed, it was very difficult to have somebody who would accompany her to speak, she could not make her run away. Zhuo Qing modestly asked for guidance and said: “What do you normally do?” She was really curious, staying at home everyday, what were they doing?

Lou Xi Wu continued propping her chin, lazily answered: “Practicing writing characters, practicing zither (musical instrument), playing chess, painting, plenty of things to do.”

Oh~

Zhuo Qing could not help to patronize and say: “I can not see it that you are a very talented girl!” Sure enough, the rich young lady’s life was not that easy ah!

Her good intention was to praise, but the outcome was still getting a lowly roar and protest from Lou Xi Wu: “Do not be too much, I know that I do not have your outstanding talents, the four arts (Zither, Go, Calligraphy, Painting) are fine but you do not need to speak sarcastically at other people like this!”

Zhuo Qing stared blankly, incessantly forced a smile, she was not really trying to speak sarcastically! Because she could not do any of the four arts at all!

Shrugging her shoulder, Zhuo Qing innocently answered: “I have amnesia and do not remember anything. You have said about those talents, but I totally forget about them. I am far worst than you, how can I be entitled to speak sarcastically about you?!”

“I....” Looking at how calmed she was when referring to her failings, Lou Xi Wu felt somewhat embarrassed: “I did not say it on purpose.” She understood how difficult to practice that talents and needed to invest how much hardships and great efforts. Now that she had forgotten about them, it was already pitiful, but still had to expose the sore spots to people on her own, she did not need to say anything!

Speaking the truth, she liked Lou Xi Wu who made threatening gesture more.

Zhuo Qing hurriedly changed the subject: "It is nothing, we chat about other things, ok."

Looking towards her, Lou Xi Wu asked: "Chatting about what?"

"I hear that you are familiar with the Emperor?" In any case, she was bored, seizing the opportunity to ask about this was also good.

Lou Xi Wu felt embarrassed and laughed, she answered: "I am not really familiar either. When I was small, I and my elder brother entered the palace to accompany our paternal aunt to relieve boredom, so we could see Huangdi (the emperor) gege, nothing more."

"When I entered the palace last time, I felt that he was vicious." Zhuo Qing sounded out a complaint.

Repeatedly nodding, Lou Xi Wu with a sorrowful heart answered: "I also feel that his temperament was very inferior, once he gets angry, he will frighten dead people, but he actually does not get angry with my elder brother too often."

"Why is that? Because your elder brother and him are cousins?" She also felt that Yan Hong Tian appeared to be particularly patient with Lou Xi Yan.

Spouting, Lou Xi Wu proudly answered: "It is not that, he is extremely vicious with his other brother, certainly, it is because my elder brother is intelligent and capable."

Feeling speechless!

She still believed that she could find out about some inside story. It seemed that asking this girl, she would just sing her praises about Lou Xi Yan. Thinking about it, Zhuo Qing continued to gossip about another person: "Are you familiar with General Su Ling?"

"He?" Lou Xi Wu frowned her brows, with disgusting look on her face: "I do not know, only hear that he is a cold and proud person, self righteous person."

"Why did you say it like that?" The cold and proud person, she already saw it that day, but it was not necessarily self righteous, ok!

Lou Xi Wu had a trace of mysterious appearance, lowly said: "In his eyes, women represent inconvenient and superfluous, even more abnormal, he does

not have any woman in his home.”

“What? Impossible, right!” That big General’s manor did not have any woman? Zhuo Qing unbelievably asked: “Inevitably, there will be servant girls, right. Can it be that he does not have a mother, younger sister, wife, young concubine, and so on?!”

Lou Xi Wu firmly answered: “He does not have any!”

Sure enough, chatting and gossiping were the easiest way that could let people to interact intimately, regardless of whatever era was the same! Lou Xi Wu was still shouting noisily towards Zhuo Qing a moment ago, she had already gotten along now, lowly said: “His father died in a war in his early years, his mother also fell ill and died afterwards. Only the three brothers, they do not have any wife completely. The home does not have any servant girl, does not have any elderly lady, only men. He is almost 30 years old this year, therefore, Huangdi gege would bestow your younger sister to him ah!”

“No way……” Zhuo Qing filled her head with sinister lines, there was still this type of man?! Really somewhat abnormal…… Then what to do with Qing Mo who would be living among all of those males??

Zhuo Qing asked about two men in succession, Lou Xi Wu finally reacted, with clear understanding and self righteous smile, she said: “What, you finally feel that you are very fortunate, your family’s three sisters, only you have the best luck following my elder brother.”

Here we go again…… Blindly worshiping was not a good thing but she would not deny her point of view this time. Comparing to both men, Lou Xi Yan was the most normal man!!

While the two people were chatting, one tall silhouette appeared by the lake, walking towards them steadily.

Lou Xi Wu’s mouth pouted, annoyingly turned backwards, he finally came to look for her! Humph!

Zhuo Qing lightly sighed, smily said: “I am thirsty, I am going to drink some water.” She did not have any desire to be the unwanted third guest.

Zhuo Qing got up, Jing Sa actually walked straightly towards her, with cold

voice said: “Miss Qing, there is a guest who pays a visit in the Qian Ting pavilion.”

“Looking for me? Who is it?” Zhuo Qing lightly stared blankly, looked towards the person’s uglier complexion who was beside her, a pair of angry eyes from a woman, Zhuo Qing broke into laughter.

“Criminal Prison Division, Dan Yu Lan.”

Him? What did he look her for? For the purpose of the autopsy’s matter? Anyway, she was just boringly staying idle, meeting him was also good. Zhuo Qing raised her feet to walk towards the outside of the courtyard, Jing Sa was following her.

After walking for two steps, Zhuo Qing stopped her footstep, smily said: “I am ok going on my own, Xi Wu has a stomachache, you take a look at her, ok.”

Jing Sa’s expression was flashing, Lou Xi Wu was already unable to turn around, she loudly roared and said: “How can I have a stomachache?”

“You drink how much vinegar all day long, it will be strange if it does not hurt!” Zhuo Qing leisurely walked towards the outside. Her mocking laughter could be heard all the way, the only person remained, Lou Xi Wu’s embarrassing face while she was stirring the corner of the lower hem of her jacket.

Sian’s notes:

That ‘spring’ was not like the spring season. ZQ was implying that she was thinking some dirty thought. Hehehe... Spring usually associates with being in love. The actual words were 思春-si chun which was similar to 怀春-huai chun (to yearn for love – for girls).

Also that last paragraph, remember that eating vinegar implies to somebody is getting jealous so ZQ is teasing LXW about drinking too much vinegar because of jealousy so she has stomachache.

Wow, what’s up with all these male characters who are almost 30 or approaching 30 in these series and still singles??? LXY is 31 & SL is almost 30. Hehehe... Most of ancient novels that I have read, most of the males are pretty young too.

# Record of Washed Grievances Chapter 57: Asking For Guidance

Very cute chapter at least half of it... But foxy LXY is still a foxy LXY.

This chapter was edited by Din2.

Zhuo Qing's heart was guessing the reason why Dan Yu Lan was looking for her, it should be related to the autopsy. Looking at him to show an enthusiastic and dedication towards dissection that day, she already knew that he would surely come to look for her, but did not expect that it would be this quick.

Walking towards the front hall unhurriedly all the way, not too far away, a light blue graceful silhouette was walking over, the rock garden obstructed the image of the person who came. But that tall body shape and unhurried temperament, Zhuo Qing already guessed who the person was, lowly called out: "Lou Xi Yan."

Soon, Lou Xi Yan raised his faint and light smile, walking towards her.

"How come you are at home?" He always left early and returned late for the past few days, right?

Lou Xi Yan did not plan to answer this question, rather lightly coughing, he conscientiously said: "Ling-er, do you not think that it is somewhat not proper to keep calling my surname to address me all day long?"

What was not appropriate? Zhuo Qing felt that it was really normal ah! But looking at him pretending with that conscientious' attitude, also with a voice that made people had goose bumps, 'Ling-er', Zhuo Qing decided\_\_\_\_ to reciprocate!

Pretending to ponder over for once, Zhuo Qing said: "Then, I should address you as..... Prime Minister Lou?"

"Too polite."

"Lou gongzi?"

"Too strange."

"Xi Xi?" She actually preferred this name!

“.....”

Lou Xi Yan was still keeping his graceful's smile, but the corner of his mouth was somewhat twitching clearly. Zhuo Qing was bursting with joy and continuing to try hard!

“Yan-er?” Did he not like adding this ‘er’ character for other people frequently, right?

“.....”

Lou Xi Yan secretly sighed, this woman who was unable to recognize his good intentions and petty, apart from calling her, when did he ever address other people this intimate? The conclusion was still ignored by this person?!

Looking at him with his head that was filled by sinister lines, Zhuo Qing could not help to laugh heartily. Her laughing was absolutely unrestrained, Lou Xi Yan could not get angry either, was only somewhat helpless and lightly shaking his head. Letting her make a joke on his own name, that kind of faintly spoiling addiction, just liked the early summer's breeze, it was warm and the heart was blowing the slightest ripple on the lake.

Restraining her smile, Zhuo Qing generously asked: “Xi Yan, are you going out?” She naturally knew that he wished to be addressed as to what name for himself. In fact, calling it out was not difficult either, not denying, she was also very satisfied with this appellation.

Lou Xi Yan already guessed from the beginning that Zhuo Qing would call him this name, but really hearing her clear voice calmly called out, his heart would unexpectedly perked up with a touch of indescribable joy, only because of this ‘Xi Yan’ sound? It seemed that he could not control his own heart, in this case, this heartbeat's racing should not be felt by him only.

“I have just returned from the morning Imperial court, I'm going to leave home again for the same thing.” Finished speaking, Lou Xi Yan suddenly stretched out his hand, his fingertips carelessly went across her neck. Her neck felt cool and was somewhat numb, he obviously did not touch her, but Zhuo Qing was rigid for no reason. He slightly leaned over to step forward, Zhuo Qing only felt that every cell on her body became exceptionally sensitive at this moment, the hair slightly moved. His gentle and soft eyes were gazing at the back of her neck,

Zhuo Qing knew that he was surely tidying up her clothes but that handsome face let her heart trembling right in front of her eyes. In addition, the faint sandalwood fragrance on his body made Zhuo Qing unable to control her racing heart.

A moment later, he took out a dead leaf from her hair, Zhuo Qing wanted to cry but there was no tears, very good old fashioned show. If someone would tell her in the past that she would raise her heartbeat consequently, she would surely curse that mentally disorder person, but what was she doing now?!

Heavens, she would rush to thirty people quickly ah~~~~ With his gentle and soft's gaze, her face would get hot inexplicably!! Heaven knew that she had already forgotten about what a blushing and heartbeat's racing were for 8-10 years!!

Let her drop dead, ok!

Zhuo Qing was lashing on her own, Lou Xi Yan's eyes flashed through a trace of fascinating smile, what kind of expression did she have..... Even if she was not shy, it was not as bad as this much suffering, ok?

With an awkward and gentle sigh, Zhuo Qing forced a smile and said: "Then, I will not delay you, I do not know why Dan Yu Lan is looking for me, I will go and look."

Official Dan came to look for her, he naturally knew about it. Without his permission, Dan Yu Lan would not be able to see her, but Lou Xi Yan still pretended to be surprised and said: "Did Official Dan come? Then, you go, ok."

Zhuo Qing nodded and hurriedly turned around to leave. Lou Xi Yan lowly's humming voice echoed one more time: "Oh, by the way, I have somebody from the bookstore to deliver a few medical books, the books are in the study room. If you are interested, you can look at them."

He bought them because of her? Lou Xi Yan's forever gentle and soft attitudes were so just perfect, Zhuo Qing hurriedly left a "Thank you", her feet were increasingly speeding quickly.

Looking at the desolate and fleeing figure of her, Lou Xi Yan's corner of mouth was lightly raised, Ling-er, where did you think you could run to?!

This confrontation, Zhuo Qing was gorgeously and completely defeated.....

Walking away from Lou Xi Yan's line of sight, Zhuo Qing finally slowed down her footsteps, what did she run away for?! Extremely humiliated..... Zhuo Qing's depressed mood made her somewhat careless, entering the Qian Ting pavilion. Dan Yu Lan put down the already cold tea and got up to say: "Taking a liberty to pay you a visit, please forgive me, Madam."

Madam? Zhuo Qing suffered from frustration one more time! Looking at him one glance, straightforwardly asked: "What are you looking for me for?"

Zhuo Qing got right to the point, Dan Yu Lan did not beat around the bush either, and asked: "Dan mou has some questions, wants to ask Madam Lou for guidance."

"Say it."

"The deceased's mortal wound is a murder weapon that runs through the chest, pierces through the heart until the person dies. The question that I want to ask is, the average person's heart will appear how many retractions after death? And how long does this retraction happen after death? If I want to compare the murder weapon, which aspect do I have to consider?" Her dissection knowledge on that day, he went back afterwards and could not be calm for a very long time, her knowledge about human body was unexpectedly already reached that kind of level!

As expected, it was concerning autopsy, Zhuo Qing's heart due to Lou Xi Yan's chaos calmed down slowly, by comparison, she liked this more that she could sufficiently control her own circumstances.

Zhuo Qing lowered her voice and answered: "The average person's heart will wither a little after death but it is not obvious. The wound puncture of the myocardium will appear to shrink, the surface of the wound will have to be much less than the murder weapon. If you want to do the comparison for the murder weapon, it will be best within the twelve shichen (24 hours) because the internal organ of that person will appear dissolving after death, it will influence your judgement at that time. If you can store the person inside the icehouse, it will delay the self dissolving and rotting of the circumstances."

Dan Yu Lan nodded clearly and answered: "I understand, the deceased also has

other stab wounds but going through the examination afterwards, I find that the deceased's wound on the chest and other areas are a little bit different. I wish to pass through the myocardium and pectoral muscles to have the comparison to confirm the murder weapon."

"En." Zhuo Qing suggested: "This is right, the best way to do the comparison is to tear the clothing off. The clothing will not shrink basically."

As far as the myocardium was shrinking, Dan Yu Lan did not really understand either, and modestly asked: "With my verbal explanation, can you issue the judgement?"

Zhuo Qing candidly shook her head: "I can only give my opinion according to your verbal explanation in this circumstance, you must have seen the corpse to be able to have the most accurate judgement."

But she could not get out of the manor now, it was impossible to do autopsy personally. Thinking, Zhuo Qing asked: "Do you have the picture of the murder weapon?" Wanting to do this careful comparison, that murder weapon was surely somewhat special.

Dan Yu Lan took out a stuff that was wrapped up by a handkerchief from his sleeve, handed it over to Zhuo Qing.

He still really trusted her and brought over the murder weapon unexpectedly. Opening the handkerchief, there was one silver glitter throwing knife inside, the blade was light, the length was about two inches, sharp double edged blades, looked like a leaf. The most middle part of the blade looked the same as a sunken leaf. This throwing knife.... seemed familiar..... Zhuo Qing's complexion slightly changed and asked: "Is this the weapon from the suspect?"

Dan Yu Lan also saw her abnormal complexion but still answered: "Correct."

"Then, the person is or is not called Qian Jing?" Although the throwing knife was special but Jiang Hu was big, it was not necessarily him, right! Zhuo Qing's heart survived luckily, but also understood on her own, the chance was remote.

"Yes."

Dan Yu Lan firmly answered, let Zhuo Qing's heart to cool down, it was really him.....

Sian's notes:

Wow, what a surprising turn of event!!! Why do I have a bad premonition on Qian Jing? How is it possible that he becomes a murderer

## Record of Washed Grievances Chapter 58: Accident

It looked like the majority of the readers voted for a whole chapter posting so I will reduce the postings to Mondays and Thursdays for now. Almost 2,000 words...

This chapter was edited by Din2.

Zhuo Qing knitted her long eyebrows tightly, Dan Yu Lan was secretly observing her expression, muttering to himself for a short period of time, he asked: "Do you know him?"

Zhuo Qing looked towards Dan Yu Lan, lightly nodded, evasively answered: "I had met him twice, nothing more, I happened to see him playing with this kind of weapon at that time." She did not lie, it was just that, Qian Jing happened to save her life in those two times. But she did not intend to let Dan Yu Lan know about these, after all, if she had too much relations with a suspect, it could make Dan Yu Lan questioned her professional judgement.

While observing the thin edge of blade in her hand, Zhuo Qing consciously pretended to ask: "I hear that he is a bounty hunter, is the deceased a court felon?" If it was a court felon, it was possible that he got killed when he was trying to escape and resist arrest. Acting as a bounty hunter, Qian Jing's crime should not be too big.

Dan Yu Lan continuously was paying attention to Zhuo Qing's expression, he faintly answered: "He was not, the deceased was a Lieutenant General who was responsible to protect the General's manor."

General's manor? How come it was related to the General's manor? This case might be complicated. If the General's manor was unwilling to forgive this matter, even if Qian Jing really did not have any ulterior motive, it would also be difficult to escape from death.

Even more worried about Qian Jing's circumstances after thinking about Dan Yu Lan's words. It was impossible to guess, Zhuo Qing straightforwardly asked: "Can you tell me the details of the case?"

“I am sorry.”

As if she already expected it, Zhuo Qing evidently laughed and said: “It is ok, I understand. I want to take a look at the corpse.”

Dan Yu Lan actually did not oppose to her suggestion, only somewhat awkwardly said: “Do you want to go now? I am afraid that the corpse can not be preserved too much longer.” He had heard earlier that one of the Qing family’s sisters went into the Imperial prison, and one was forbidden to go out of the Prime Minister’s manor. He was very doubtful that she could go out of the manor.

Of course she could not go now, Zhuo Qing was somewhat gloomy, pondering for a moment, she asked: “How long did the matter happen, where was the corpse stored at now?”

“It happened yesterday night, the corpse was stored inside the icehouse. But the Imperial icehouse is not big so after the corpse’s examination is finished, it has to go into a coffin and uses lime to seal it up, it is stored at the cemetery.”

Storing it at the icehouse was not bad, she wanted to rush before the corpse was being moved out of the icehouse, but she had to go out first. Otherwise she could wait until it arrived at the cemetery to examine it, but many crucial evidences would already be vague. But how could she go out, asking Lou Xi Yan’s help now would make things difficult for him, right!

Zhuo Qing was in a dilemma when Jing Sa lofty’s voice appeared inside the pavilion again. Zhuo Qing raised her head, puzzlingly asked: “Is there another matter also?” If there was not any, he would absolutely not appear in front of her.

Without having any expression on his face, Jing Sa’s cold voice answered: “The people from the General’s manor came.”

“What?” The General’s manor? They were also looking for her? Zhuo Qing kind of had a mixed feeling suddenly, today was really lively ah..... Hearing the General’s manor, Dan Yu Lan’s eyes flashed but did not say anything, only silently stood on the side.

Cold eyes swept across Dan Yu Lan’s serene face, Jing Sa did not refrain from

anything, immediately answered: “Miss Qing Mo fainted at the General’s manor. The Imperial physician has looked at her but she has not woken up for two days. She has said before that her illness is a perennial problem from her childhood. You are the only one who can cure her so the people from the General’s manor have brought her to the Prime Minister’s manor. They are waiting inside Hua Ting pavilion.”

Qing Mo? The rumor of the coward and timid’s third sister might be Gu Yun! Zhuo Qing’s heart was nervous without any reason.

Dan Yu Lan slightly cupped his hands and answered: “Madam is busy, you can hurry first, ok, this small official (xia guan) takes his leave.”

Dan Yu Lan was just about to go, Zhuo Qing suddenly said in a low voice: “You hold the corpse inside the icehouse first, I will think of a way to look at it once in the next few days.” She did not believe that Qian Jing would kill a person, he would not kill anybody without no reason at the minimum!

“This.....” Dan Yu Lan hesitated for a moment, finally still answered: “Fine.” Finished speaking, Dan Yu Lan cupped his hands one more time and left Qian Ting pavilion.

Zhuo Qing also impatiently said to Jing Sa: “Go to Hua Ting pavilion.”

If Qing Mo was really Gu Yun, then it was really heaven’s blessing, but what to do if it was not? She did not know what special drug could treat Qing Mo’s illness? Zhuo Qing walked energetically all the way, her chest was nevertheless in a mess, very quickly she finally arrived at the front of Hua Ting pavilion.

“Are you Qing Feng?”

Zhuo Qing’s feet just stepped on the inside of the pavilion, an arrogant and uneducated’s voice echoed coldly.

Zhuo Qing raised her eyes to see a young male, not quite in 20 year old’s look. His complexion was clear and bright, arrogant eyebrows, eyes flashed through a strong brilliant rays, he had somewhat an imposing manner, unfortunately, Zhuo Qing was disgusted by the absence of his manner.

Directly glancing at him, Zhuo Qing swept her eyes once through Hua Ting pavilion, there was a stretcher that was similar as a shelf in the middle of Hua

Ting pavilion. Supporting the top was a small sail and the outside was separated by a layer of muslin curtain, the light muslin was swaying gently, she could faintly see one female's silhouette. Besides the young male, there were still four people who wore stalwart dressing inside Hua Ting pavilion, respectful faces, even though they did not wear body armors and helmets, it would not make any person to mistakenly recognize them as soldiers.

Not seeing Su Ling's silhouette, Zhuo Qing lightly frowned, it seemed that Qing Mo had not received Su Ling's favor at the General's manor. She already lost consciousness for two days, he unexpectedly did not even appear?!

Looking at the pair of gentle and soft eyes, Zhuo Qing was somewhat smiled unnaturally and said: "Xi Yan, you are still here?"

"I heard that your younger sister fell ill, I came over to take a look." Very good, she discovered his existence finally, it was clear that his great effort was still not enough~

Facing Lou Xi Yan's overly gentle expression, Zhuo Qing was very embarrassed, heaven~! Looking at an extremely handsome male was really a disaster, both handsome and gentle's male was exactly a disaster within a disaster!! Did he think that all the people who were in this big pavilion dead?!!

Zhuo Qing was clearly somewhat anxious and superfluous, the several soldiers were simply gazing fixedly, and the young male was gazing at Zhuo Qing with a thoughtful face, he simply did not pay attention to the two people who were 'flirting with each other'.

Lou Xi Yan lightly raised his eyebrows as if his 'Ling-er' was still not used to his 'gentleness', it did not matter, he would make her used to it. Withdrawing his line of sight, Lou Xi Yan looked towards the young male, he introduced and said: "This is General Su Ling's third younger brother, General Su Yu."

Facing the male's inquiring eyes, Zhuo Qing coldly nodded her head, immediately walked towards the stretcher and lightly lifted the muslin covering veil. Seeing clearly the female on the stretcher, Zhuo Qing flashed out an expression for a split second..... Qing Feng and Qing Ling looked extremely alike so Zhuo Qing believed that Qing Mo should also look similar. But seeing the female before her eyes, Zhuo Qing finally understood why she did not

miscalculate. Qing Mo had a delicate small face, plump forehead, long eyelashes, small and exquisite lips, this person seemed unimaginably young, did she even reach 15 years old?! This was simply one 'cute girl'!

This person..... was likely to be Gu Yun!! Zhuo Qing thought about this, there was a collapse of the heart..... Even though her heart turned around a thousand time, besides her original amazement, her face still had that cold expression. Reaching for Qing Mo's wrist with her hand, Zhuo Qing observed her face.

With regards to Zhuo Qing's rudeness, Su Yu did not take it seriously either because..... he was used to it!

The first time that he looked at this woman, he was still somewhat unconvinced that she was Qing Mo's elder sister. But after seeing her manner afterwards, he was convinced..... They were surely siblings, the same condescending attitudes, the different was that one was icily arrogant, the other one was..... Zhuo Qing withdrew her hand, put down the muslin covering veil, Lou Xi Yan was concerned about it and asked: "How is it? Do you or do you not want to look for several Imperial Physicians to come over and look?" Looking at her eyes that flashed through a trace of loss a moment ago, Lou Xi Yan was worry that she forgot how to treat her.

Zhuo Qing shook her head and answered: "It is nothing, bring her into my room first, allow me to prepare the silver needle, if I am not really able to do anything, then I can ask the Imperial Physician later on." She wanted to seize this opportunity to be alone with Qing Mo together this time. If she could not manage to wake her up, then she would invite the Imperial Physician, ok!

When Su Yu nodded afterwards, the four high ranking military officers took the stretcher up, the delegation of men walked to Zhai Xing pavilion. Qing Mo was laid on Zhuo Qing's bed, Zhuo Qing turned her head and said to Lou Xi Yan: "Xi Yan, you can go and take care of your business, let Jing Sa stay with me to help, it will be fine."

"Very well." Without saying anything, Lou Xi Yan turned around to go out of Zhai Xing pavilion.

Helping Qing Mo to cover up with a quilt, Zhuo Qing's back was toward Su Yu who was standing on the outside of the screen, she said: "General Su, the

acupuncture will not be done in a short time, it will be better that you return to the manor first to wait until she wakes up, then I will have someone to send her back to the General's manor."

"No need to be inconvenient, you begin with the treatment, I will be waiting outside." Su Yu's firm voice was very loud.

Zhuo Qing rolled her eyes and answered: "It is up to you."

Very quickly, the door was closed with a bang (loud) sound.

Looking at the shining silver needle on the table and taking a look at the delicate woman again who seemed too easy to be broken with a touch in front of her eyes, Zhuo Qing was anxious, what should she do next?!

# Record of Washed Grievances Chapter 59: Qing Mo vs Gu Yun

Hands down!!! This is the longest chapter!!! I keep breaking the record of the longest chapter in this novel. Hehehe... Almost 3,900 words.

This chapter was edited by Din2.

Looking at the shining silver needle on the table and taking a look at the delicate woman who seemed too easy to be broken with a touch in front of her eyes again, Zhuo Qing was anxious, what should she do next?!

Holding the silver needle on her hand, Zhuo Qing said softly by the woman's ear: "Yun, if you are still not waking up, I will certainly push down this needle!"

She already called Gu Yun's original name, if she was Gu Yun, she should wake up. Watching attentively at the tiny woman who was still motionless on the bed, Zhuo Qing was somewhat disappointed, was she really not Gu Yun? The hand that was holding the silver needle hesitated for a moment, Zhuo Qing still advanced to prick Qing Mo's arm.

Just before the long needle almost pricked the arm, Zhuo Qing's wrist was grabbed by a slender hand, the woman who was on the bed suddenly opened her eyes, leaned half against the bed curtain and glared at Zhuo Qing, she lowly scolded: "You really want to prick ah!"

Zhuo Qing lightly raised her eyebrows and answered: "What do you think?!" She was finally willing to wake up!

Before her eyes was the woman's extremely long hair that reached her waist, snow white skin color, and cute face. The two scars seemed especially unattractive, even Zhuo Qing saw the scars on this woman this much and felt a pity. Her round eyes looked like small rabbits' eyes but the midstream of that expression was sharp and firm with radiance, they made Zhuo Qing's heart to relax. That was indeed Gu Yun's right expression but this face..... Heaven ah, it was really too adorable.....

"Yun, is it really you?" Zhuo Qing still could not help wanting to be certain.

The woman excitedly shrugged her shoulder, indifferently smiled and said: “I do not mind to take a big test!” She, herself, was surprised about this face when she had just woken up.

Propping her chin, the woman was sizing Zhuo Qing up and down, with craftiness on her face, she laughed and said: “Let me think, the most favorite drink that you like is Hawaiian kona, the most favorite cake is tiramisu, the most favorite thing to do is dissecting corpses, the most favorite game to play is the game of zombies, measurements are 34–24–36…….

“Stop! That is enough!” Zhuo Qing filled her head with sinister lines, she was 100% sure that the person who was in front of her was that darn woman! No matter how many sweet outer appearances she had, the temperament was the kind that was not adorable at all!!

“Do you believe it now?” Gu Yun looked like she had not yet finished talking.

“I believe it!” Zhuo Qing gnashed her teeth, why did she not prick several needles ferociously a moment ago!! Regretted it ah…….

“I am starving, do you have any food?” Gu Yun turned around and got up, her movement was flexible, she did not look like she had not eaten anything for two days and two nights. Zhuo Qing could not refrain from laughing: “You were really ‘sleeping’ for two days and two nights?”

“I estimated to sleep for three days, I had never thought that they would bring me here after only two days.” This youngster, Su Yu, had usually irreconcilable differences between the two of them. Who would have thought that during the crucial moment, he still brought her here.

Walking to the outside screen and taking a few cakes from the table. Zhuo Qing stuffed them into Gu Yun’s hand, shook her head and said: “You can really endure.”

Taking the cakes, Gu Yun was just eating them, indifferently answered: “Not bad, before the time that we ambushed the drug dealer, I did not die when I did not eat nor drink anything for three days and three nights, sleeping for two days was a piece of cake.” Fortunately, those physicians were not like Qing who did not have any humanity and wanted to use pincushion!

Both hands were still on her chest, half leaning against the screen, Zhuo Qing admiringly smiled and said: "According to your talent, is leaving the General's manor difficult? Why do you still at the General's manor up until now? Or you are actually enchanted by the icy arrogant's General Su?" She could not help to say that Su Ling was indeed a very attractive man, Yun liked him was not strange either.

Clearly glancing at her, Gu Yun unbearably and lowly shouted: "after I arrived at the General's manor, I only saw him twice altogether, ok?!"

Zhuo Qing was looking at this adorable face that was exploding at the moment, could not help to continue to tease her: "That is so called love at first sight, meeting only once is enough!"

She bit him the first time, both of them were trying to kill each other the second time, if this could be called as love at first sight, then it was indeed sparkle all around! Gu Yun drooped her head to focus on eating, Zhuo Qing suddenly stepped forward one step, lifted up her chin, with an evil smile on her face, she asked: "Honestly speaking, you have or have not....." Not letting her to finish, the intention already finished, Gu Yun stared blankly to recall the first time she met with Su Ling, her complexion flashed a trace of blushing, firmly slapped Zhuo Qing's hand, Gu Yun scolded and said: "I have not! You, this woman whose brain is filled with yellow (pornographic) thought."

"I have yellow thought?" Zhuo Qing could not ignore her face that looked unnatural, faintly smiled and snorted: "I have not seemed to say anything yet, is this or is this not the legend about confessing without being pressed?"

"Zhuo Qing\_\_\_\_\_"

Zhuo Qing could hear the sound of someone's grinding her teeth, hurriedly exchanged the subject: "I am very curious, the General's manor really does not have any woman."

Gu Yun impatiently answered: "Indeed, there is none, even the mosquitos are all males!"

Zhuo Qing lowly smiled: "I have not seen you for only two months, you have a lot of humors!"

Gu Yun casted one glance at her, sneeringly said: "I see that you like to gossip!"

How come she had not discovered this characteristic before!

Zhuo Qing did not get angry either, excitedly raised her shoulder, smily said: “There is nothing to do, it is boring.”

Boring? What kind of crafty answer was this. Not bothering with her, Gu Yun got up to find water to drink, her bare feet were stepping on the long feather carpet, Gu Yun walked to the round table to get a cup of water for herself. Suddenly, there was a sound of a hard to constrain laughter from behind her, Gu Yun turned her head around, only saw Zhuo Qing who was bracing on the wall, with convulsed laughter, she said: “You said that my 163 cm height was a dwarf during that time. May I ask, if your 158 cm height is called a midget now?!

The heaven really had eyes ah~~!!”

Gu Yun’s face was black, coldly said: “One minute.”

Looking at her own petite woman’s shoulder, looked thin like a bean sprout, Zhuo Qing laughed more ridiculously, reversal of the wheel of fortune. Yun was always proud of her own 175 cm height and also suffered a beaten for a moment!

Gu Yun’s face was more and more black, getting close to one minute time, Zhuo Qing finally restrained from laughing, if Yun really got angry, it was not fun anymore.

Gu Yun coldly snorted: “Did you laugh enough?!”

Zhuo Qing could only nod, otherwise she was afraid that she could not help to laugh out loud again.

Staring at the corner of mouth of that woman who was twitching, Gu Yun was somewhat helpless and saying: “Our time together is limited, do you still want to continue on this trivial nonsense or discuss properly on what to do next?”

Zhuo Qing pressed down his smiling expression, finally seriously answered: “You speak now, I will hear it.”

“Actually the reason why I have not left the General’s manor immediately is because of two reasons. First, you have already seen it, this body is actually very weak, I need time to make her strong and flexible. Second, I have discovered this

at the General's manor." Finished talking, Gu Yun took out a piece of white paper from her waist and opened it on the table.

Zhuo Qing moved closer to look, before her eyes was a bright paper: "This..... looked like our unfathomable mystery bagua plate that we saw before we came here?" The diagram of the bagua plate, every detailed line was extremely alike, they felt newer than the last time they saw that one.

"Correct, I guess that we can return to this place, it is most likely because of it. If we want to go back, we will still have to depend on its ability."

Zhuo Qing muttered to herself and said: "It is a collection at the General's manor?"

Gu Yun shook her head and answered: "I only saw the portrait of this diagram at the General's manor. It is said that this is Su Ling family clan's emblem, where is the collection at, only the Su family's eldest son, Su Ling and the old clan's elder know. I still remain at the General's manor at the present time because of this."

"Is there any clue?"

"No." Even Su Yu, Su Ren were not clear, it was estimated that she could only start from Su Ling to find the place. Gu Yun sighed and said: "I heard that Qing Feng was at the Palace banquet doing autopsy, I guessed that it was surely you, therefore, I pretended to faint to see you. I had passed these days like this, how about you? How is the situation?"

Zhuo Qing's appearance was very gloomy, faintly answered: "The situation is complicated....."

Gu Yun was somewhat startled, what matter could cause the always capable forensic investigator to be completely gloomy like this?!

"This body of mine is not Qing Feng at the moment, rather it is the Qing family's elder sister, Qing Ling. Because Qing Feng and Qing Ling's looks are very similar so the officials have delivered the wrong people. Qing Ling originally, should belong to Qiong Yue's Emperor, Yan Hong Tian, moreover, it seemed that Yan Hong Tian and Qing Ling had friendly relations in the past. Yan Hong Tian is an extremely arrogant and blood thirsty's man, he believes that Qing Ling is

deliberately plan to impersonate Qing Feng. He almost choked me to death, so I had no choice but to pretend to have amnesia~”

“Amnesia?” Gu Yun broke into laughter: “Good idea.”

“Since we started it, we must carry it through whatever happened, I lied to him by saying that I was already Lou Xi Yan’s woman, who would have thought that Lou Xi Yan did not expose me.”

Gu Yun blinked, colorfully asked: “Did you really lie to him?”

Zhuo Qing’s sharp eyes flew over, Gu Yun mockingly said: “Fine, please continue.”

“Finally, Yan Hong Tian said that he wanted to investigate this matter thoroughly. Under Lou Xi Yan’s protection, I am able to stay at the Prime Minister’s manor but is forbidden to go out. Unfortunately, Qing Feng was sent to enter the Imperial prison.” With regards to Qing Feng, that stubborn person who made people feel sorry for that woman, Zhuo Qing was always unable to let go.

Having never met Qing Feng, Gu Yun actually did not pay attention, but she was worried about Zhuo Qing, nothing more: “In other words, Lou Xi Yan and Yan Hong Tian are vying for you now?”

Zhuo Qing sighed: “Precisely speaking, they are vying for Qing Ling.”

“Yan Hong Tian is vying for whom, I do not dare to be certain. Lou Xi Yan has not seen Qing Ling in the past, he is vying absolutely for you. This situation at the moment, it is best that you stay by Lou Xi Yan’s side, he is the only one who can protect you.” This time that she was staying at the General’s manor, she understood a little bit about this ancient era. Even though she unexpectedly admitted that within these six countries, if Yan Hong Tian wanted a thing, it would really be rare that he could not obtain it.”

“It can only be like this.” Zhuo Qing was clearly understood at this point.

Looking at her somewhat dejected manner, Gu Yun lowly smiled and said: “Did you not say it was boring, you could still do other things conveniently.”

Zhuo Qing could not even forced a smile: “What do you want to talk rubbish

about.”

“I do not want to say any rubbish ah, I only think that Xi Yan is really not bad.” She heard inside the Hua Ting pavilion a moment ago but it was not very clear!

This woman would still hold a grudge!! Deciding not to be at odds with her big talk and thinking about Qian Jing’s matter, Zhuo Qing seriously said: “I want to ask for your help about one matter.”

Gu Yun refreshingly answered: “Say it.”

“The guard at the Lieutenant General at the General’s manor was killed by a man named Qian Jing. I am also not clear on the specific of the situation, I will look for an opportunity to do the autopsy. I hope that you can help me investigate this whether or not he is the real murderer in this matter.” Gu Yun’s investigation case, the logic was clear, the thoughts were meticulous, examination was fine and detailed, she had more confidence in her ability to handle the case.

“I pretended to pass out for two days so did not know what matter had happened.” With an astute eyes that were sweeping Zhuo Qing’s rather worried face, Gu Yun asked: “Why do you want to help him?” Qing’s manner did not look like it was just an ordinary case.

Yun still had the same sharp mind, Zhuo Qing did not plan on hiding it either, she answered: “He has already saved my life twice, I owe him a favor. Moreover, I can not say that I’m helping him now either, if he is guilty, I have nothing to say. But if he is not guilty, you do not wish for one innocent life to die in a tragic circumstance either, right?” She simply could not let any miscarriage of justice arose on her hand, this was not only her own standard, but also Yun’s standard. She believed that Yun would agree to her request.

Sure enough, Gu Yun nodded her head and answered: “I got it.”

Jing Sa’s muffled voice echoed from the outside of the door: “Miss Qing, the Imperial physician has arrived.”

Zhuo Qing frowned, a deep sound answered: “I am right in the middle of the needle treatment, do not come in to disturb me.”

Through the window paper, Zhuo Qing could faintly see that Su Yu was still

outside the courtyard waiting. Two people looked one glance at each other, Zhuo Qing said: “I see that Su Yu will not let you remain here, wait until I go out to explain that you have already woken up but you must do acupuncture every week. Otherwise, the injury will be life threatening, this way we can exchange information every week. It is best that we do not act blindly without thinking comparatively at this present situation.”

“Good.” Gu Yun also thought that it was the best like this, even if they both escaped now, it would be useless, they would be caught again very quickly.

“Take care of yourselves.”

“I will, you also take care of yourselves.”

Both people’s mutual understanding was smiling at each other, only faintly and mutually saying to be careful, did not say anything again.

Gu Yun put the cup that she was using back to the original place properly, her hand moved the empty plate and placed it inside the partition underneath the round table, then she used the table cloth to cover it up properly.

Looking at Gu Yun was getting busy, afterwards, she returned to the bed rapidly to lie down. Zhuo Qing lowly laughed, Yun was indeed cautious comparatively.

Gu Yun gave her an ok gesture, Zhuo Qing walked and opened the door.

“How was it?” Zhuo Qing just walked out of the door now, Su Yu already strode forward to come over, his whole face was anxious. Zhuo Qing’s expression slightly flashed, this did not look like an attitude between a brother in law’s treatment towards an older sister in law!

Covering up her radiant eyes, Zhuo Qing answered: “She has already awoken but her body is still relatively weak. She must have an acupuncture every seven days, after the next ten treatments, it should not recur during the year.”

Su Yu urgently said: “What kind of illness does she have after all?” Seeking several good physicians could not make her wake up.

What kind of illness? Zhuo Qing said without thinking it through: “Congenital interstitial cell of cajal hyperplasia with neuronal intestinal dysphasia.” See 1

below.

What.... What.... What...? Su Yu did not even understand one word that he had listened, turned his head to look towards the Imperial physicians on the side and asked: “What is this?”

“Eh..... this..... this old subject.....”

The sweat on his forehead came out quickly.

Gu Yun who was laying down pretending to be weak almost spurted laugh, suddenly turned over to roll her eyes, she could still break it off!

The Imperial physician was stammering and could not say the reason why for a long time, Su Yu impatiently looked towards Zhuo Qing and said: “Forget about it, I will send her back here after seven days.” As long as the treatment was good. Finished speaking, Su Yu crossed over Zhuo Qing to go to the inside of the room, soon, the four member of the soldiers carried Gu Yun once again.

Separating the light muslin, two people’s eyes met, passed on an expression to take care of each other, then moved away respectively.

Su Yu walked to Jing Sa’s side, cupped his hands and said: “Head housekeeper Jing, I take my leave.”

“Please, General Su.” Jing Sa followed Su Yu’s party to go out of Zhai Xing pavilion.

Besides asking about Gu Yun’s condition, Su Yu only looked one glance at Zhuo Qing from start to finish. After that she was considered as a nobody, the corner of Zhuo Qing’s mouth lightly raised, it appeared that the General manor people’s disregard of women had already reached to a certain degree. How did Gu Yun live among these group of men, really curious.....

“Madam.”

Zhuo Qing turned her head around to look, the old Imperial physician was still in a daze and standing behind her, with sincere face, he asked for guidance: “Can this old official ask for guidance, that..... what... is... the abnormal illness?”

Zhuo Qing broke into laughter, lightly coughed and answered: “This.... is very complicated, you go back first, ok, it is already late.”

Zhuo Qing was unwilling to speak about the matter too much, the old Imperial physician did not ask again. Bowing to salute afterwards, he went out.

Stretching her body, Zhuo Qing's mood was rather good, she finally saw Yun, her worry's heart could finally be put down a little. In this different world, she felt that one person would move forward together with you, made people feel relieved by a lot.

Narrowing her eyes, the sunset was gradually leaving behind the red clouds on the whole sky, one bright day had already passed. Zhuo Qing was just preparing to go to Qian Ting pavilion to have a meal, she still had not taken any step, and just saw Jing Sa's dark face coming over towards her. Zhuo Qing's mind was immediately alarmed and she asked: "It can not be that there is somebody who is coming again, right?"

"The Emperor has arrived." Jing Sa's cold voice answered Zhuo Qing's guessing heart, Zhuo Qing thought that she, herself, went crazy.

What good day was today after all..... still had not completely finished..... Deeply breathing, Zhuo Qing asked: "where is Lou Xi Yan?"

"Master has not returned yet."

Recalling Yan Hong Tian's violent and impetuous' manner on that evening, Zhuo Qing waved her hand and said: "Then, you just tell him that I am sick, almost dead, I can not meet."

"Who is sick, almost dead?" A muffled man's voice had a trace of displeasure echoed at the gate of the Zhai Xing pavilion.

This voice..... No need to see to know who the person who came.

Zhuo Qing felt as though her head could explode, Lou Xi Yan was not here, Yan Hong Tian had already heard her lying, this time she could only suffer.

"Pay respect to the Emperor." Jing Sa stood sideways to salute, crossing over his shoulder, Zhuo Qing really saw that violent figure walked over towards her straightforwardly.

Being pragmatic, ok! Zhuo Qing was just about to salute, Yan Hong Tian's big hands already gripped her arms, lightly supported her to get up, extremely

natural and lightly seized her shoulder, lowly smiled, lightly roared and said: “Xiao Ling-er, Zhen (see 2 below) has not come to see you since I have been relatively busy this time, you are not allowed to be angry.”

His intonation was really gentle but the substance was still the same overbearing, Zhuo Qing was rigid all over, Mister..... It seemed that we..... we were not actually very familiar, ok?!

Yan Hong Tian could appear at this time, surely after observing the opportunity. Zhuo Qing had already prepared mentally that this could not be good, but Yan Hong Tian’s face was concentrated with serene and his eyes concentrated with doting on her. Zhuo Qing firmly swallowed a mouthful of saliva, started not knowing what to say..... Yan Hong Tian, this was..... so terrible??

Sian’s notes:

Ok, I thought Gu Yun was supposed to have low EQ, that was why it took her a loooooong time to realize that Su Ling liked her. I know, she was so stubborn too just like Su Ling. But she knew right away that LXY liked ZQ since he had not seen Qing Ling in the past.

1. 先天性氏間質細胞增生合併腸道神經元發育異常. The raw for the sickness that ZQ said was that words. Google translated it as Inter’s congenital intestinal stromal cell hyperplasia and neuronal dysplasia. When I put the whole Chinese raw on Google, there was a disease called Congenital interstitial cell of cajal hyperplasia with neuronal intestinal dysplasia. Anybody has a medical degree (I think Natalie should be familiar with the term )? Because I’m not going to attempt to explain what that disease is. If you’re curious, you can read it from here, <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/11075862>.

2. The actual raw was using ‘Lian’ word (联) & we couldn’t figure out what the word meant but we thought it seemed to be a third party calling & was similar as Zhen, but we were not sure what the difference between the two. Then we compared the Lian word with Zhen word (朕), it turned out to be very similar so we were wondering if it was actually a typo. Chapter 60 used a lot of this Lian word also and we had decided to translate it as Zhen because this was how YHT addressed himself through out the previous chapters. Does anybody know if this Lian word can be used as another appellation for YHT? Maybe it’s a more

informal way?

# Record of Washed Grievances Chapter 60: Zhuo Qing's Suspicions

Ch 59 was still the longest, I think. This was only 7.5 pages vs 8 pages for ch 59. My bad, this chapter actually beat ch 59 with almost 4,080 words. Crazy...

This chapter was edited by Din2.

Not knowing what tricks that Yan Hong Tian wanted to play, Zhuo Qing told herself to be calmed and observe his change, to be calmed and observe his change!!

Her shoulder that was held by him looked as if it was gentle, in fact he was using a fixed force that made people unable to move a single step, Zhuo Qing could only hold her head to the side.

Unfortunately, Yan Hong Tian was not a good person to deal with, pinching Zhuo Qing's chin to make her head turn over. Yan Hong Tian lightly stuck his lips to her ear, a muffled man's voice and burning hot breath echoed softly: "Why do I see that you are so nervous, are you afraid?"

What did he believe he was doing?! When he was happy, he wanted to be with you, but when he was not happy, he wanted your life! Zhuo Qing ignored the burning hot sensation on her ear, coldly answered: "My neck was weak."

Still holding a grudge ah! Sensing Zhuo Qing's anger, Yan Hong Tian laughed heartily instead and said: "Be at ease, I am still not willing to want your little head now." Because you had a new function.

He was still not willing now? The idea that he was saying that his mood was not good on that day so he wanted the other person's life!! It was good if he did not say it, this answer made Zhuo Qing who grew up under the rule of society law was even angrier, coldly snorted and said: "Then, I still have to really thank you lo! Excuse me, I must leave."

Regardless of how tight his grabbing on her, Zhuo Qing determined to struggle free from his hand. Yan Hong Tian did not force her either, he allowed her to go, but he laughed towards her back and said: "Zhen came wanting to let you know

about one good news.”

Zhuo Qing remained unmoved and continued to move forwards, Yan Hong Tian did not block her path either: “I had already investigated and found out that everything was because of Hao Yue’s officials’ negligence. They caused you to have amnesia and delivered you all to the wrong places. You and I can forget and not bear any recrimination, as far as Qing Feng.....”

Yan Hong Tian deliberately halted his speech, Zhuo Qing’s footsteps stopped after she heard Qing Feng’s name. Turning around to look towards the face of a complacent man, Zhuo Qing groaned and said: “What do you want?”

Yan Hong Tian was fixing his eyes on her but not willing to say any word.

Darn man!! Zhuo Qing was cursing while walking to his side, looking at her giving in obediently, Yan Hong Tian’s mood was joyful, smily said: “Be at ease, I will give an order to release her, she will be bestowed a title as \_\_\_\_ Imperial concubine Qing today. How is that?” (See below).

She did not know how high rank was the Imperial concubine ‘pin’ title in the harem, as long as Qing Feng did not have to worry about her life, she would be at ease, she consciously nodded her head. Yan Hong Tian suddenly took out one block of a slightly larger than half of the palm, a little golden token from his sleeve, handed it over to Zhuo Qing.

Zhuo Qing was somewhat hesitating but she still accepted it, one side of the token was engraved by the instruction words, the other side was engraved by a pair of dragons. The middle of the dragons had an impressive three dimensional Yan’s word, fiddling with it for a moment, Zhuo Qing asked: “What is this?”

“I bestow you this token, if you have this, you can enter the palace at any time.”

When Yan Hong Tian took out the token, Jing Sa’s eyes flashed through a touch of different color, Gao Jin breathed a mouthful of cold air, but Zhuo Qing concentratedly put the stuff on her hand and did not pay too much attention.

Listening to Yan Hong Tian’s explanation, Zhuo Qing merely made an “Oh” sound. She would basically not enter the palace after all, in theory, this Imperial token was basically useless for her.

How many people would seek but could not get the token that he bestowed to her, the supreme and glory of the Imperial token, she unexpectedly had this facial expression?! Yan Hong Tian's complexion was dark: "You seems to be not happy!"

What did he want her to think? Feeling overwhelmed and weeping by his favor or falling down on the ground to wish him and shout thank you for the Imperial favor, or else giving him a shameless face?! Unfortunately, Zhuo Qing had never used to kneel and bow down to the western style underpants, so taking the Imperial token and hanging the rope conveniently on her wrist, she raised her head and put a trace of smiling expression, Zhuo Qing answered: "Thank you." She asked one question that she was concerned about at the moment: "Do I have the freedom to enter and exit the Prime Minister's manor?"

"Of course, you can." Approaching Zhuo Qing, Yan Hong Tian mutteringly said: "Where do you want to go, Zhen is willing to accompany you."

I was not willing!

Even though Zhuo Qing wished that she could go out immediately but looking at Yan Hong Tian's overflowing mood, she hurriedly answered: "I did not want to go anywhere, only casually asked."

"But if Zhen wants to go to a place, you can accompany Zhen." Simply not Zhuo Qing's desire, Yan Hong Tian was holding her hand, then walked over towards the outside door.

The hand that was held tightly and dragged by Yan Hong Tian, Zhuo Qing could only shouted: "Hold on, hold on!"

Yan Hong Tian finally stopped his footsteps, his serene and calm eyes were gazing at her.

No matter where he wanted to take her, Zhuo Qing did not have any interest, but it would bring her own bad luck if she provoked him. Lightly lifting up both of their hands that were holding together, Zhuo Qing deliberately bowed her head to take a look at her own simple and tasteless green cheong sam (long skirt), mockingly said: "This.. I have to freshen up and make myself presentable, I have to trouble you to let go of my hand first."

She might be able to drag this for a period of time, right! Zhuo Qing's heart cried piteously\_\_\_\_\_ Lou Xi Yan! How could you still not return ah ah..... () The eagle eyes slightly narrowed, glancing at Zhuo Qing up and down, Yan Hong Tian not only not letting go of his hand, but actually he was holding her palm tighter, laughed heartily and said: "Zhen is very happy that you care so much at Zhen's foresight that you want to please with your own appearance, however, it is not needed because Zhen feels that you are very beautiful like this at the moment." Green color really suited her and also her name compelled the ingenuousness of people.

The only feeling that she had at this moment was her desire to weep but she had no tears, she was almost dragged to walk all the way out of the manor. Zhuo Qing turned around to look one glance at the silent Jing Sa, he was trying to open his mouth but still closed it at the end. Jing Sa was unable to save her, should she shout for Lou Xi Yan Yan? Still wanting to make him in a confrontation with Yan Hong Tian because of her once again, Zhuo Qing hesitated.

While she was hesitating for a moment, she was already pulled by Yan Hong Tian to the outside of the Prime Minister's manor.

Gao Jin had already prepared a chariot ahead of time, respectfully said: "The Emperor, the chariot is already prepared."

Yan Hong Tian swept a glance at the back of the spacious and luxurious chariot, but he did not enter it and just passed by it, he rather walked to the front side of the caravan to fancy one pure black fine horse. Agilely turning over, Yan Hong Tian already got on the horse, extended towards Zhuo Qing's hand and said: "Come up." (Deng it, where's LXY??? ).

Zhuo Qing was startled, she had never ridden a horse!! Moreover, she also did not want to cram on the horseback with Yan Hong Tian like that!

"I do not..... ###."

One fierce strength lifted her up, the strength was big that it could snap her hand off, Zhuo Qing had no choice in order not to completely handicapped her hand. She could only follow this strength and spread her legs to sit on the horseback.

This man really did not know anything about having any tender feeling with a woman!! Zhuo Qing was kneading her arm while she was cursing, only heard a sound by the side of her ear: “Sit properly.” She was on the horse and it felt like an arrow was flying from a bow string!

The fine horse was running wildly for the whole journey, the speed was quick, Zhuo Qing almost could not open her eyes. Yan Hong Tian’s hand was encircling Zhuo Qing’s waist tightly, his scorching palm was sticking close to her abdomen. Unfortunately, Zhuo Qing basically did not have any mood to feel this kind of perception of ambiguous attitude to give her a shock heart, she used her entire energy to balance her body as to not making her fall down from the horseback.

The severe jolt made her want to vomit, it appeared that they had gone for a long time, Zhuo Qing felt pain in her waist. Yan Hong Tian grasped firmly on the rein, urgently braked, the horse stopped in a second. Zhuo Qing breathed deeply several times and opened her eyes slowly.

Seeing clearly the scene before her eyes, Zhuo Qing breathed a mouthful of cold air.

Extremely quick and wildly running made the sturdy fine horse gasped for breath of puff air, suddenly and urgently stopping made it agitated incessantly to trample on the four hoofs. And ahead of it was\_\_\_\_\_##.

The side of the stones cliff as the horse’s hooves was urgently stepping on, tumbling down from time to time, one could hear a drop of pattering sound of stones that echoed with a weaken sound. However, one was not able to hear the sound that fell to the ground all along, it could be seen clearly how deep this overhanging cliff was. Zhuo Qing’s heart was eager and anxious, the speed was so quick a moment ago, if the horse was unable to stop slightly, in that case, she and him already died horribly, she experienced this man’s arrogance one more time or\_\_\_\_\_ fearless of dying!!

Zhuo Qing was still afraid, but a calm and composed man who was behind her, asked: “Do you like it?”

Zhuo Qing recovered, followed his line of sight to look towards the distant place, she started to admire the scene before her eyes again. The steep cliff was as far as the eyes could see, ahead was the verdant and lush peaks of the green

jade mountain range, even though the sun was already set in the west, there was still lingering clouds and mist. The afterglow of the setting sun was still as powerful as the red clouds that invaded the clouds and mist, the green plants filled the eyes, the horizon appeared to be influenced by the same lingering from the clouds and mist and looked like a countless of fiery dragons that were playing with the green jade mountain like appearance. The scene before her eyes was aggressive, boundless and yet did not lose the charming and gentle scenery!

The cool breeze was blowing, the current beautiful scenery, it appeared to place oneself on the outside of the painting, also appeared to be trapped among them, it was really a beautiful experience for oneself, Zhuo Qing had never experienced this feeling. Nodding her head, Zhuo Qing's sincerely praised and said: "En, it is very beautiful."

Becoming aware that the person who was behind her lightly jumped, Yan Hong Tian settled to stand by the side of the cliff afterwards. He stretched his hand, Zhuo Qing could not have any argument this time, hurriedly grabbed his palm to conveniently come down from the horse.

Taking a deep breath, sure enough, he could still realistically give her even more sense of security.

Zhuo Qing wanted to retake her hand, but Yan Hong Tian did not agree to let go, his domineering's eyes swept across the horizon, slightly raised his voice to her ear with a clear sound: "As long as you like it, the thing in this whole world, no matter if it is a treasure and distinguish beast, or many evening stars on the cloud, Zhen can make all of them belong to you."

Zhuo Qing lightly raised her eyebrows, the man who was beside her approached people aggressively, the perfect shot from the side as if a carved stone with the distinct edge and corner. Not too far away, three rows of strong Imperial bodyguard squadrons guarded against them who were in the middle, the heaven and earth seemed to respond during his bold and visionary words. He was the King of Qiong Yue, the master of the whole world, standing at this highest level, his domineering way might be justified. Zhuo Qing had to admit that he was really attractive at this moment.

But..... ###.

Zhuo Qing was an absolute materialist, lightly shook her head, she could not help to smile and say: “Was your arrogance born within you?”

The woman who was beside him had a disapproving face, Yan Hong Tian’s eagle eyes slightly narrowed, coldly snorted and said: “Do you not believe me?”

Here we go again, he was liked a time bomb that could detonate whenever and at any time, Zhuo Qing shrugged her shoulder, perfunctorily answered: “I believe you.”

Yan Hong Tian’s eyes that were dark at first, suddenly caught a trace of smiling expression, she basically did not believe. Even though she was perfunctory, she would not be stingy to change and appear like this direct. She really was not afraid of him one bit, this discovery made Yan Hong Tian feel very interesting.

Whirling Zhuo Qing’s hand, Yan Hong Tian smily said: “The first time that Zhen saw you, it was also the time when the sun set in the west like this, a small rabbit sustained an injury on the roadside and it caught your attention. You were so timid but kindhearted at that time, made Zhen unable to imagine that you could still cut open a corpse at the main hall, at that time, you were so..... Yan Hong Tian had a smile on his face and was looking at her, did not continue to speak, Zhuo Qing unconcernedly continued to say: “Cold blooded?” He always emphasized that Qing Ling was so kindhearted, then, in other words, she was very cruel to do dissection.

It was not like there was nobody who had said that she was a woman and also a forensic investigator, it would make people think that she was cold blooded. Unfortunately, she always took exception to it because she always firmly knew what she was doing. Exerting herself to pull back her own hand, Zhuo Qing’s cold voice answered: “I am sorry, I forgot what kind of person I was before.” She was not Qing Ling.

His little beauty was angry, just before Zhuo Qing had enough time to resist, Yan Hong Tian already encircled her to his bosom. Both of the tip of their noses were sticking tightly, each other’s breaths seemed to blend together, Zhuo Qing wanted to retreat but the hand that was on her waist was even more tightening up: “It does not matter, Zhen will surely make you fall in love with Zhen again.”

The muffled voice was not loud and clear, the strength on her waist,

nevertheless, reminded Zhuo Qing clearly about this man's determination. Zhuo Qing held her breath, did not dare to move once because she was afraid that her breathing would exert a little bit of strength, then their lips would touch together!

Just when she did not know what to do, there was a rushing horse's hoof sounds came from a distance to come nearer, Zhuo Qing hurriedly raised her eyes to see, she could finally see that meager silhouette. (Yay!! About time ).

Lou Xi Yan's appearance made Zhuo Qing's heart indescribably settle a little, her relaxing mood made her to ignore Yan Hong Tian's corner of mouth that had a trace of profound smiling expression.

Yan Hong Tian was looking at that envious silhouette who came around and chuckled, he came very quickly!

Yan Hong Tian slightly raised his hand, the calvary immediately let that one person to come into the gap of the entrance, Lou Xi Yan urged the horse to enter the open gap.

Stopping in front of Yan Hong Tian, Lou Xi Yan dismounted gracefully, his gaze had already swept through Yan Hong Tian's hand that was still not letting go of Zhuo Qing's waist. Lou Xi Yan's face did not change, lowly narrated: "Chen, pays respect to The Emperor."

Yan Hong Tian's good mood secretly mocked and said: "Xi Yan also came, really coincidental."

Lou Xi Yan lightly smiled, calmly answered: "Chen was worry for the Emperor's safety."

"Really?" Worry for his safety?! Yan Hong Tian narrowed his eyes, besides Lou Xi Yan, he could only see Mo Bai who was not too distance. Obviously rushing over hurriedly after he received the news, but he still said shamelessly that he was worry for him.

Ck, ck, Xi Yan really set his heart on this small thing! Interesting, this game would be fun!

Pressing close to Zhuo Qing again, he whispered on her ear and said: "Take a good care of your Imperial token."

Finished speaking, Yan Hong Tian let go of the hand that was encircling Zhuo Qing's waist, put his hands on his back, a clear sound smiled and said: "It is already late, return to the palace." Yan Hong Tian straddled on the horse and it ran quickly, did not look one glance at Zhuo Qing and Lou Xi Yan again. Zhuo Qing, however, was watching at the back figure that was in a far distance, did not move away for a very long time.

Lou Xi Yan's eyes flashed through a trace of annoyance, but it was actually concealed excellently, faintly asked: "What are you thinking?"

"I have this kind of strange feeling." Zhuo Qing had not regained her line of sight either.

"What kind of feeling?" How was it possible that she already had feeling so quickly for Yan Hong Tian?! Lou Xi Yan's face looked the same as usual, but his own heart had this kind of strange feeling.

Zhuo Qing shook her head, smily said: "I do not know how to say it."

Looking at Yan Hong Tian's back, she suddenly had this type of strange feeling, if Yan Hong Tian really liked Qing Ling so much, why did he not take the person to enter the Imperial palace immediately, and still wanted to let her live together with this one subject? If he did not like her, why did he want to spend time to dally with her?! And he still gave this thing?! Recalling Yan Hong Tian's words before he left, Zhuo Qing lightly raised her hand, the gold token was suddenly shown on her hand and asked: "Is this thing very useful?"

Seeing clearly the thing on her hand, Lou Xi Yan stared blankly, he unexpectedly gave the Imperial token to her!! What did Hong Tian want after all?!

Detecting Zhuo Qing's probing expression, Lou Xi Yan faintly answered: "This is the Emperor's special Imperial token, if you have this Imperial token, you can enter the palace at any time, you will not be subjected to the palace's restriction. All levels of the officials who see the Imperial token will also have to show courtesy to some degree to you. As far as I know, Qiong Yue only has a total of six Imperial tokens like this currently."

"So, it is actually like that." How precious? No wonder that Xi Yan's eyes flashed through an amazement just now.

Fine, I would take a good care of this first, maybe it would be useable later.

Taking the Imperial token into her waist pocket, Zhuo Qing suddenly thought of Qian Jing, raised her head and asked: “Can you let Mo Bai to send me to Criminal Prison Division’s office? The General manor’s person was killed and the suspect who committed the crime was Qian Jing. I want to see the corpse as quickly as possible.”

Qian Jing.....

Lou Xi Yan pondered for a moment and recalled this person, he had saved her. Lou Xi Yan did not say anything and pulled the reins, he answered: “I will accompany you.”

“You are very tired today, it is ok if you just let Mo Bai to send me there.”

“It does not matter.” Lou Xi Yan already straddled on the horse, then stretched his hand towards her.

Riding a horse again~~ Thinking that her stomach had that churning’s feeling a moment ago, Zhuo Qing unconsciously frowned but she did not say anything. Grasping Lou Xi Yan’s hand to leverage strength to get on the horseback.

Her body was stiffed to maintain the balance, Zhuo Qing took a deep breath to prepare to meet a challenge well!

Lou Xi Yan was looking at the tensed body of the female who was in front of him, and could not help to break into laughter. Leaning his body forward, Lou Xi Yan lightly kicked the horse’s abdomen, the white horse was running slowly.

The horse’s speed was not quick at all, Lou Xi Yan’s two hands were holding on the reins, half encircling her on his bosom, Zhuo Qing’s tensed heart was slowly letting go in the end. Looking at her relaxing in the end, Lou Xi Yan’s speed was somewhat accelerated, the horse was somewhat bumpy. Behind Lou Xi Yan’s warm embrace, Zhuo Qing’s body was tensed one more time. Lou Xi Yan used his free hand helplessly to embrace her waist lightly, helped her to settle down on his bosom, and concentrated on riding the horse.

Leaning comfortably and lightly on Lou Xi Yan’s bosom, Zhuo Qing conceded that riding a horse did not seem to be a bad matter, but her clear’s heartbeat sounded from the sleeveless garment to come through. She felt her own

heartbeat was chasing along with his speed, kept accelerating.

Lou Xi Yan's eyes stroke across a touch of extraordinary splendor, the corner of his mouth was unconsciously perked up.

Following them closely, Mo Bai discovered that the Master's horse seemed to go slower and slower, he was afraid that they would not arrive at the Criminal Prison Division's office until dusk, ok.

Sian's notes:

I think there are different levels for these women that live in the back palace/harem (后宫-hougong). I can't remember them all but the title that YHT is using is a 嫔-pin, which is translated as Imperial concubine. I think this title is kind of in the middle level. There's a 妃-fei which is higher than a pin. Anyway... Just a little something about this level of concubines.

I'm also kind of confused when YHT gave the imperial token to ZQ. I thought YHT gave the imperial token to QF so QF could give it to ZQ. Hmmmm??? But why would he give the token directly to ZQ or QL in this chapter? Also the timing seemed to be off or way too early also. I thought the token was given to QF after a lot of things had already happened between these two people and not right away after YHT found out about the mixed up. Oh well....

Lastly, Mo Bai, be quiet. I'll be willing to accompany you riding a horse. Hehehe...

# Record of Washed Grievances Chapter 61: The Throwing Knife's Mystery

Over 3,800 words in this chapter...

This chapter was edited by Din2.

“The deceased had thirteen sharp injuries, four places on the arms, six places on the legs, two places on the abdomen and one place on the chest. The dimension of the wounds were about an inch by an inch, incisions were neat, the wounds did not have distinct enlargements. The deceased's fatal wound was on the left chest to the heart, it was a penetration that pierced through the wound, the length of the wound was about an inch and caused by the cross sectional view of the wound, the lethal weapon should be a double edge sharp tool.”

Piling up with ice cubes in the inside of the icehouse, the cold air was pressing, a row of an open coffin made people unable to bear to swallow saliva. An oil lamp on the table seemed to feel this negative air, there was no wind but the oil lamp was shaking violently. One haggard man was laying down inside the coffin stiffly, there was a pair of fine hands inspected and measured every wound on his body conscientiously. A clear and cold woman's voice was talking indifferently and thoroughly, this kind of environment was somewhat making one's blood run cold.

“The deceased's cause of death was the rupture of the inside vein on the chest that reached up to the heart, serious internal bleeding, the lung collapsed under pressure to cause the dislocation of the diaphragm, this lead to breathing and circulatory failures and death.”

Finding out the position of the mortal wound in the heart, Zhuo Qing stretched her hand and said: “The throwing knife.”

A young minor government official who was at the side and busy recording hurriedly handed over the throwing knife, soon after, his hand held the writing brush tightly once again, extremely cold.....##.

Comparing for a moment, Zhuo Qing lowly said: “Dan Yu Lan, come over here

and see.”

Dan Yu Lan walked towards Zhuo Qing’s side, only saw that she put the throwing knife on the lateral side of the heart simultaneously, approached the cross section slowly to compare it, the width of the cross section’s wound was bigger than the throwing knife by a lot. When he was doing the dissection at that time, he also discovered this finding so he could consult with her. “The myocardium’s wound was a lot bigger than the murder weapon, this explained that the stabbing on the deceased’s heart was not caused by the throwing knife?”

Zhuo Qing shook her head, with a cold sound answered: “I can not be certain, the icehouse’s temperature is not low enough. The corpse was delivered in the evening, the internal organs already appeared to slightly dissolve on their own. Moreover, the double edged blade of the sharp weapon created the internal organs’ injury, it was also possible that the wound would have an enlarged appearance.”

This, this, this temperature..... was still not low enough #.

While admiring to look towards the woman who was standing in front of Prime Minister Lou, he took a thick cloak to drape it on her body. He put only a thin robe on his own body, and he had stood inside the icehouse for almost half a shichen (1 hour) and his face did not even change any color, was he not cold?!

Zhuo Qing returned the throwing knife to Dan Yu Lan, strangely asked: “Why did you think that this wound was not caused by the throwing knife?”

“The deceased had 13 wounds like this on the body, but the bailiffs at the scene only discovered 12 throwing knives, and these wounds looked as if they were indeed caused by the throwing knives, but regardless of the strengths and locations, all of his other wounds were rather different than this mortal wound on the chest.” The other wounds were distinctly light and located at the hands and feet so they were not fatal, why only put this one knife in the middle of the heart, the strength was great so it was actually pierced the body!

Zhuo Qing agreed with his analysis, this was indeed somewhat strange. Her shoulder was draped by Lou Xi Yan’s cloak, Zhuo Qing did not feel articulately cold but he..... Looking towards Lou Xi Yan who was behind her, Zhuo Qing was

somewhat embarrassed, let he, himself accompany her to Criminal Prison Division’s office and she still caused trouble to him to make him foolishly waiting for half a shichen (1 hr) inside the icehouse. Zhuo Qing took off the gloves and said: “The information on the corpse can only be like these temporarily, we go out first, ok.”

Three people went out of the icehouse, the always silent’s Lou Xi Yan suddenly said: “Official Dan, we want to see Qian Jing, is it possible or not?” Zhuo Qing slightly looked distracted, she wanted to go and see Qian Jing but she originally planned to go tomorrow on her own, unexpectedly, he actually said first.....

“Of course, you can, please follow me.” Lou Xi Yan was in charge in the Ministry of Justice and he had already asked, Dan Yu Lan did not have any reason to decline.

.....

The autopsy room was originally not too far from the Ministry of Justice’s prison, three people approached the gate of the prison where the criminal was locked up. They saw one man, one woman and one young official who appeared to have a small dispute. When they saw Dan Yu Lan’s silhouette, the official was relaxed clearly, urgently walked to his front and said: “Official Daren, the people from the General’s manor have said that they want to see the criminal, what do you think?”

Dan Yu Lan had not replied yet, a loud and clear sound of a man already took the lead and echoed: “Official Dan.”

Su Yu looked at the person who was behind Dan Yu Lan, his brows were unconsciously wrinkled, his mouth still called out respectfully: “Prime Minister Lou.” Why was Lou Xi Yan here also?!

After being greeted, Lou Xi Yan lightly nodded, unlike Su Yu’s outer appearance that was clearly amazed, Lou Xi Yan’s face could not be seen any slightest difference.

Dan Yu Lan slightly cupped his hands to greet and answer: “General Su Yu.”

Su Yu walked towards the front of Dan Yu Lan, perhaps this was the distinctive of the soldier’s imposing manner, even though his voice did not count as loud,

but his words were still somewhat threatening: “The one who died this time was the General manor’s Lieutenant General. I hope that I can hear the case publicly, Official Dan will not oppose to it, right?”

Dan Yu Lan’s complexion did not change, unhurriedly answered: “Of course, this small official will handle and judge the case impartially, if General Su is interested, please join us.” How many people were ‘concerned about this’, this case did not seem easy to handle.

Dan Yu Lan and Su Yu walked ahead, but the woman who was beside Su Yu did not catch up with him, she was rather waiting for Zhuo Qing to come over.

Gu Yun who was full of vigor, standing to wait for her, Zhuo Qing smilingly said: “You are really an action activist.” She was not even doubtful with regard to this, this was Gu Yun.

However, Gu Yun did not pay attention to Zhuo Qing at all, a pair of bright eyes were looking up and down at Lou Xi Yan without any restrain, with a somewhat smiling expression, Gu Yun lightly asked: “Lou Xi Yan?”

The eyes of the woman who should perhaps be called a tiny girl, were not like an ordinary woman with her hair was rolled up in a bun recklessly, it was not like man’s hair that was set into a crown but rather it was bound tightly with a blue ribbon. Jet black’s hair was swinging behind casually, a simple azure cheong sam covered her up tightly, her figure was conspicuously more petite but it did not look frail. Very special woman, Lou Xi Yan gently nodded and answered: “I am.”

“Qing Mo.” Gu Yun introduced herself while her heart was grading this man, the facial features were handsome, cultured and refined, tall and straight, the temperament was brilliant, the common saying was just wealthy and powerful, stylish and rich, very well, she would give him 99% mark.

This woman’s expression was hardly flickering, as if it entered straight into the person’s heart, looking face to face with these kind of eyes, it needed an absolute courage, the Qing family’s sisters appeared to be out of the ordinary. Facing to look closely at Gu Yun’s, Lou Xi Yan generously answered with a smile and asked: “Is Miss Qing’s health a little better now?” She was still being carried on a stretcher to go to the Prime Minister’s manor in the afternoon, she was already in great spirits now, Qing Ling’s medical expertise was really so

exceptional or.....

“Many thanks for your concern, I am already much better.” Gu Yun answered calmly, did not have any trace of frenetic.

Walking for a while and discovering that Gu Yun had not caught up with him, she was rather talking cheerfully and wittily with Lou Xi Yan, Su Yu had a trace of black on his face. He was staring at her, lowly roared and said: “Hey, enough with the long winded talk, are you or are you not walking ah?!” Once she woke up, she was dragging him to come to prison urgently, and yet how could she chat leisurely with other people now!!

Gu Yun faced Lou Xi Yan and nodded slightly, then advanced towards Su Yu to walk, once she passed his side, she punched Su Yu’s abdomen suddenly and unexpectedly. Gu Yun continued to walk forwards as if nothing had happened, Su Yu covered his abdomen with his hand, his mouth was cursing continuously but still following her obediently.

Lou Xi Yan and Zhuo Qing saw this scene entirely, both people looked at each other and smiled, and followed them to walk in, but Zhuo Qing’s eyes swept past her helplessness, Lou Xi Yan’s eyes passed through a trace of pondering.

Passing through one channel, there was finally one prison cell inside, one slender man laid down on the slab bed, his one tall leg was over his other leg, swaying lightly and frequently, his mouth was chewing a dry grass, relaxed and contented face as if he was not laying on a firm slab bed inside the prison, but rather on a high warm bed and pillow.

The door was opened, a groups of people came in, the prison cell was not small luckily, otherwise it would be somewhat crowded.

Qian Jing got up and sat with his cross legged, he looked at the group of people who came in, laughed out loud and said: “How is tonight so lively?” His gaze swept over to Zhuo Qing’s face for a time, Qian Jing’s eyes flashed through bewilderment for once but it disappeared very quickly.

“Qian Jing, what did happen last night after all, why were you at Yang Liu family’s house, also why did you punch him? It will be best that you tell the truth about this matter entirely.”

Casting a sidelong glance at Dan Yu Lan earnestly and holding a dry leather, Qian Jing answered impatiently: "I had already said it many times that the reason why I went to his home was because I was at the Wan Li money farm (a type of bank in the ancient time) first. I was not careful and bumped into his Madam in front of the manor's door, he would not listen to any of my excuse, then an altercation happened between two people. During the shoving, I discovered that he put bank notes that were as thick as a pocket tablet on his bosom unexpectedly. He was only a Lieutenant General so how much salary he could make in a month. Guessing that he was surely a scheming person, I followed him secretly right at that time. Who would have imagined that he discovered me at his home at that time, he just hit me without even saying any sentence. I released my throwing knives merely for self defense, nothing more, I absolutely did not want to murder him, I also did not know why the knife would hit his chest!! The matter was just like this."

It seemed that if he did not ask, he would not tell in detail, Dan Yu Lan continued to ask: "At that time, besides you and Yang Liu, who was also inside the room?"

"His Madam and also one thin male."

Dan Yu Lan looked towards the side of the official, the official immediately answered: "Answering to Daren, he was saying the truth, the male's name was Li Zhi, he was guarding the east gate's city wall together with Li Liu and they had known each other for a lot of years. His personal character should be regarded as honest, but he liked to gamble and had not yet married until now."

Dan Yu Lan continued to ask: "After Yang Liu fell, who had approached the corpse?"

"At that time..... #. The man went to support him with his hand, there was still a sound of fighting and his Madam's shrieking sound drew out two males, the room was in disorder and there were many people."

Gu Yun leaned against the closest outside door of the prison, leaned against the stone wall, both hands were on her chest, a pair of sharp eyes were observing the surrounding and Qian Jing's every facial expression secretly, listening to Qian Jing and Dan Yu Lan's dialogue silently. Gu Yun stood up

suddenly, moved away from the outside door of the prison, when Zhuo Qing saw this, she also followed to go out. She was convinced that Yun should have some clues.

Following by her side, Zhuo Qing asked: "What is it?"

After walking for a few distance from the prison door, Gu Yun moved sideways slightly, made people inside the prison unable to see her face or unable to read her lips, Gu Yun used extremely low voice to say: "He was hiding something, maybe we should look for a time to meet with him alone." Qian Jing mentioned something without elaborating as if to say, in fact, nothing to say it clearly that he did not trust those officials, he wished that he would trust Qing.

Behind everybody's line of sight, it seemed that Gu Yun did not pay any attention evidently, she continued to ask: "What did you find on the corpse?"

"The deceased had thirteen knives' injuries, the deceased's mortal wound was on the left chest right at the heart, it was pierced through the wound, the cause of death was the vein that was inside the heart that was ruptured, the severe internal bleeding caused the death. The corpse had thirteen wounds but the bailiff reported that they only found twelve knives at the scene, there was still one knife that was missing oddly."

Missing oddly? In other words, the real murder weapon was missing! Gu Yun's feet started walking, Zhuo Qing urgently said: "Where are you going?"

Gu Yun without looking back, said: "Crime scene."

Looking a glance inside the prison that still continued on with the interrogation, Zhuo Qing strangely said: "Now?" Did they not need to interrogate first?

Finally turning her head around, Gu Yun floated a glance at the prison cell, immediately answered: "They asked anything but could not get the answers, only wasted their time." What Qian Jing wanted to say, he already said it earlier, if he did not want to answer the question truthfully, they would never get the answers.

Finished speaking, Gu Yun advanced towards to walk out of the prison once again, Zhuo Qing lightly raised her eyebrows. Not caring that the people who

were inside the prison cell were still hearing the inquiry, Zhuo Qing went out to chase after Gu Yun and asked: “Which direction are we going?” Did she know where the crime scene was located?!

Gu Yun lightly smiled, somewhat raised her hand and answered: “Just ask the people behind us and we will know.”

Zhuo Qing stared blankly, who to ask ah?! Turning her head around, she only saw that Su Yu who was still inside the prison cell a moment ago, not knowing when he had already come over to follow them. Behind him was Lou Xi Yan who was always walking neither hurriedly nor slowly.

Only an outstanding male who was originally still inside the crowded small prison cell, only to pierce down three baffled people who looked at each other in dismay, the official looked towards the complexion of Dan Yu Lan carefully that was slightly heavy and asked lowly: “Daren?”

His intuition informed him that girl surely sensed something that he did not know, and he was very curious!

Abandoning the bewildered official, Dan Yu Lan was also chasing after their back figures.

The young official scratched his head, what finally happened tonight?!

The inside of the prison cell became quiet all of a sudden, Qian Jing’s mouth was biting a dry grass, agilely turned over to lie down on the cold and hard bed. Both of his hands were on the back of his head, the phoenix eyes slightly flashed through one trace of radiance, where did the least bit of sloppy manner go also.

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Inside the dining room of the small courtyard of the peasant family, a delegation of people were standing.

Dan Yu Lan turned towards the Owner and cupped his hand slightly and said: “Madam Yang, please forgive me to ask to disturb you boldly so late.”

The married woman slightly returned the greeting, her eyes showed a thin mist, with soft voice she answered: “Daren, you has spoken too humbly, this small married woman only requests to Daren to investigate the case as quickly as

possible and bring that evil person to be executed, to return a justice to my husband.”

Watching attentively at the top of the wall where the throwing knife left a mark, turning back towards the Madam, Gu Yun said: “Can you say the whole matter again?”

The married woman turned her head around to look at the strange young woman who was looking around immediately once she was inside the room, she did not understand what she was doing but Daren did not put a stop either. Even though she felt somewhat strange in her mind, but she still answered in detail: “My health was not good, my husband said that he wanted to give me a proper recuperation. I and my husband were at the Wan Li money farm to exchange banknotes yesterday afternoon. After we were about to leave, there was a bold man who bumped into me and made me almost fall down. My husband was an impetuous person and caused a disturbance with that person and they were both shoving each other. I was afraid that they would punch each other so I persuaded my husband to walk away right away. I originally thought that this matter was already in the past, who knew that during the evening time, my husband’s close friend, Li Zhi arrived at home to have a meal, just barely arranging the chopstick properly, that person appeared suddenly. Without saying any sentence, he already raised his hands to fight, my husband and Li Zhi were not well matched with him. I was extremely afraid at that time and could only run out to shout to people, it just happened that I encountered the Imperial bodyguard of the General’s manor, Huang Yi and Wang Wei, these two big brothers. At the time that the three of us returned back, we saw that my husband fell down!” Squatting in the middle of the dining room floor, not knowing what she was looking at, Gu Yun without lifting her head, asked: “Was there any confession transcripts from the three people?”

Confession transcripts? Guessing her meaning, Dan Yu Lan answered: “The three people’s confessions were already signed, they were actually identical with Madam Yang’s words.”

Slowly lifting her head, Gu Yun was looking at the married woman, carelessly asked: “At that time the deceased fell right here, right?”

The married woman stared blankly and nodded to answer: “Yes.”

Dan Yu Lan's complexion was cold, Lou Xi Yan's thin eyes slightly fluttered, this woman was rather complicated. The bloodstain on the floor was already cleaned up neatly, the wall on the top of the dining room had marks of the throwing knives everywhere, also the deceased's sword left behind some marks. When she entered back to the inside of the room, it was less than a quarter hour period, how could she speak out the exact position of the deceased when he died?!

All of the people were watching closely at Gu Yun, only saw that she finally got up, with a clear voice, she said: "I think\_\_ my belly is very hungry!"

What?! ()

Belly was hungry?!

Originally, the group of people wanted to hear her explanation urgently and after hearing her answer, their facial's expressions were somewhat twitching suddenly.

Zhuo Qing simply laughed immediately.

Stretching her waist, Gu Yun walked to the front of Su Yu, nonchalantly asked: "Do you not say that there is a noodle family store that is really good, is it open now?"

Su Yu was somewhat at a loss, but answered her: "Eh, it should be."

"Then, what are we still waiting for?" Not regarding that there were countless of eyes that were watching her, Gu Yun grabbed Su Yu's sleeve and pulled him to walk outside for a few steps. She suddenly turned around again, smiled towards Lou Xi Yan and said: "Xi Yan, do you want to join us to eat noodle together ah?"

Zhuo Qing's head filled with sinister lines immediately, Xi Yan..... She still dared to call that name.

Lou Xi Yan lightly smiled and answered: "Ok ah."

Gu Yun and Su Yu walked ahead, Lou Xi Yan and Zhuo Qing walked on the back, the four people just wondered away unhurriedly like this. Only Dan Yu Lan's dark complexion and the blank eyes of Madam Yang who were left behind in the room..... Leisurely walking during early summer night wind, watching ahead the two people who were walking very fast, Lou Xi Yan looked towards Zhuo

Qing, smilingly said: “Your younger sister is very interesting, she seems to have knowledge towards the investigation of the case.”

How could she answer this?! Pretending to look at the horizon blankly, Zhuo Qing forced one and two hollow laughs and answered: “Hehe, I am not clear about this, I have amnesia~~”

A good amnesia~~

# Record of Washed Grievances Chapter 62: Qian Jing's Past

Insomnianoodles, I'm sure you can guess who the male is at the end of this chapter. Rani Bu, how many bowls of noodle do you guess GY will eat? Over 3,200 words...

This chapter was edited by Din2.

The time was close to midnight, the moon was on the tip of a tree, in a quiet alley, there was no one who was walking around. There were two rows of shops that had closed down their doors long ago in the alley, there was only one very small noodle shop that was revealed only by candle lights.

“Boss, give me one more bowl.”

The hand of the petite woman was holding one big bowl of noodle, her mouth was shouting unclearly. There was one gold ingot that dazzled with radiance on the table, even if he worked for one year, he would never make that much money. The 60 years old's boss nodded repeatedly, the subordinate had not been staying idle either and he was occupied with boiling noodle.

Gu Yun put down the empty bowl to receive the noodle that was delivered by the boss, hardly took into consideration any table manner, she ate to her heart's content.

Su Yu was looking at the table in front of her, there were already three big bowls, sneeringly said: “Are you a pig?!” He had never seen any woman who could eat these many bowls, her table manner was this ugly! Looking at her thin figure that looked like a bamboo pole, Su Yu was puzzled, where did everything that she ate go to?! How was there not any meat that grew?!

Gu Yun raised her head slightly, casted sidelong one glance at him, then left behind this sentence disdainfully: “Are you a chicken?!” How did this big man eat so little!

This sentence was enough to explode Su Yu's already fiery temper, only saw him pound the table suddenly, with a loud voice he shouted: “Boss, bring ten

bowls!” Trying to play a joke, could it be that she could still eat, but he could not!!

The boss was stumped for words, did not dare to neglect and hurriedly boiled the noodle. He secretly sighed, being young people were truly good, how could they still eat this much and this late!

Zhuo Qing was supporting her chin impatiently, lazily said: “How about you two eat slowly, I will return to get a beauty sleep first and then come back again.”

Looking at the empty bowls on the table that these two people already ate, Zhuo Qing’s heart only had one feeling\_\_\_\_ two chowhounds!

Gu Yun’s head did not even raise, she answered soon after: “You can go but Xi Yan can not.”

Xi Yan, Xi Yan, she really had an addicted habit to call that name. Zhuo Qing did not ask why urgently, Lou Xi Yan who was sitting gracefully all along finally got impatient to somebody: “Why can I not go?”

“I intend to go to see Qian Jing.” Gu Yun drank the entire soup at last, stroking her belly satisfyingly, she could finally eat until she was full, did not eat anything for the whole two days was really out of the question!

Su Yu listened to her words and his brows were twisted together: “Have we not seen him a moment ago?! You still want to see Qian Jing and what is the relation that he can not go?”

Gu Yun simply did not feel like paying attention to him, however, Lou Xi Yan already understood without being told explicitly, in a low voice, he called out: “Mo Bai.”

Mo Bai’s tall silhouette appeared from the outside of the small store immediately, Gu Yun gasped in surprise, this man’s skill was really fast ah! She unexpectedly did not detect his breathing a moment ago!

Lou Xi Yan explained several sentences in a low voice, Mo Bai lightly nodded and went out.

Su Yu thought for a long time and finally understood Gu Yun’s meaning that

Lou Xi Yan would have to bring her to enter the prison, he roared resentfully and said immediately: “I also can bring you to enter the prison ah, not only into the Ministry of Justice’s prison, that is all!”

“How could you bring me to enter the prison, just like a moment ago when you were quarreling or beating the guards until they passed out so we could enter the prison? How can I go using you to enter the prison?” She wanted to enter the prison secretly, let it be, talking to this idiot could only exhaust herself!

Su Yu curled his lips, in any case, the outcome was still the same that they could actually enter the prison, so it should be fine.

“He did not speak the truth a moment ago, are you sure that he will speak the truth to you now?” Lou Xi Yan was relatively interested about this, this girl gave him the highest amazing experience for himself tonight. He also became aware for the first time that one girl could eat so many bowls of noodle unexpectedly!

A stack of bowls, just to beat Su Yu a moment ago, the soup was splattering everywhere, you could say that the table was messy. Lou Xi Yan was the kind of person who could contend leisurely, it seemed that no matter what kind of the circumstances that he would run into, what kind of matters, he could response gracefully. Gu Yun secretly signed, this time Qing really collected a treasure!

Looking a glance at Zhuo Qing who was on the side waiting and already somewhat impatient, Gu Yun laughingly said: “He will not talk to me but he should talk to her.”

Zhuo Qing glared at her one glance, snottily said: “For which reason do you think that?”

Relying on feeling! Gu Yun did not say it out loud intelligently, she would otherwise get Zhuo Qing’s supercilious look.

Stroking her satisfied belly, Gu Yun finally stood up and said: “I am full, let us go, ok.”

Just in time that the boss also carried the ten bowls of noodle to come over, Gu Yun threw a glance at Su Yu, lightly smiled and said: “Enjoy your meal, chick.” After she finished talking, she stepped out of the small store confidently, Zhuo Qing looked one glance sympathetically at the stunned Su Yu, smiled lowly and

followed to come out. Yun's mouth was still very poisonous!

Lou Xi Yan lightly coughed to cover up his smiling expression, he cupped his hands lightly towards Su Yu and also went out of the store.

The boss was looking at the complexion of the young man who looked more and more terrible....

"Qing Mo, darn it, whom did you call a chick! Only hearing the roar, his own shadow was already went out of the room. The boss was watching at the hands distressingly that were still holding the piping hot of the ten bowls of noodle..... What should he do?

Arriving at the prison again, Gu Yun discovered that the former young gate keeper had already been changed, four people stood very straightly, their visuals were straight ahead but it seemed that these four people were not really looking at them.

Gu Yun said to Su Yu who felt aggrieved during the whole journey with a low voice: "You should wait at the gate, ok."

"Why?" His heart was annoyed, Su Yu's tone of voice was vigorous when he answered.

"The less people who enter inside will be better, or do you still want to waste the efforts of the interrogation tonight?" Gu Yun rarely explained in kindness, even though Su Yu's heart was still not willing but he also did not continue to persist in entering the prison.

In contrast, Lou Xi Yan just understood discretely, slightly laughed and answered: "Since it is like this, I will not enter the prison either."

"Go." Gu Yun nodded her head satisfyingly and pulled Zhuo Qing, both of them entered the prison.

Gu Yun discovered keenly that there was one guard for every ten meters when they came here for the first time, the guard was already disappeared without a trace at the moment. This way it would be more convenient to deal with the interrogation. Arriving in front of Qian Jing's prison door, the lock was unexpectedly open easily. Gu Yun could not help to admire Lou Xi Yan who was really a capable person to handle the affair cautiously.

With regards to the appearance of Zhuo Qing and Gu Yun for one more time, Qian Jing did not show any surprise at all, his face also showed less of the sloppy expression, Qian Jing with a low voice asked: "What do you still want to ask?"

"How did you and the deceased know each other, why did you want to follow him, also why did you punch him?"

Looking one glance at Gu Yun, Qian Jing raised his head and his face showed a trace of cynical smile, and answered: "I have already said this a moment ago, is there any fresh information?!"

Consciously leaning against the stone wall, Gu Yun's cold sound answered: "You can say that elaborate statements one more time but you can not used any of those statements for your own case. The witnesses' testimonies at the scene were actually and extraordinarily unfavorable for you. If you do not agree to speak the truth, it will be difficult for us to help you. The only outcome for you is just to wait to die."

Qian Jing did not say any word, Gu Yun narrowed her eyes slightly, watching attentively at him for a moment, then said: "You do not trust the authorities, you are going to wait for those people to help you reverse the verdict?" After she said the sentence about him waiting until he died, his face flashed through a trace of ridicule and unconcerned, it was very light but she saw it.

Qian Jing's heart was alarmed, the entire person almost jumped up, the phoenix's eyes were watching attentively at this young unfathomable woman who was in front of him and asked: "Who are you?" She could guess his mind unexpectedly!!

Gu Yun allowed him to watch her, smiled but yet did not answer.

Both of them were looking face to face like this but nobody was saying any word, Zhuo Qing did not speak either. Knowing that Qian Jing was unable to endure being looked at her, he asked: "Who is she after all?"

"She is my younger sister, Qing Mo." Qian Jing appeared to be very hostile towards Gu Yun. Zhuo Qing understood that nobody liked to be seen through by somebody else. Advancing forward one step, to walk around the side, Zhuo Qing candidly said: "Qian Jing, I believe that you did not murder anybody. I have already seen the evidences on the deceased's corpse but I do not have enough

proof that you are innocent. We want to help you if we have the ability to help you, if you believe us and if you are willing to speak the truth about the matter. If you are not willing to believe us, we will leave immediately.”

The three people did not say anything, the inside of the prison cell was quiet and it appeared to be able to hear everyone’s breathing sound. Zhuo Qing waited for a moment, Qian Jing was lowering his head slightly, he still did not have any expression. Zhuo Qing looked one glance at Gu Yun and Gu Yun blinked towards her. Zhuo Qing understood that Qian Jing’s heart was still struggling, sighed deliberately and lowly, Zhuo Qing said desolately: “Well, you are not willing to believe in me, I do not have any way either. But I will not give up, I will surely think of some ways to help you wash away this injustice.”

Finished speaking, Zhuo Qing turned her body around, said towards Gu Yun: “Let us leave, ok.”

Helplessly lowering her sigh sounded like it was indeed making people’s anxious, Gu Yun chuckled, this woman’s acting was better and better. Following her moving away out of the prison’s gate, the feet stepped across the outside door, Qian Jing’s muffled voice echoed: “Hold on.” Successful!

Both of them exchanged one crafty expression but when they turned around to face Qian Jing, that expression was absolutely sincere!

Qian Jing sat down on the stone bed and seemed to sink into contemplation, the young ostentatious face appeared faintly and hazily, after for a long time, Qian Jing said lowly: “There was a case that created a sensation in Qiong Yue three years ago. The state treasury was stolen, one million taels (unit of money) of gold disappeared within the night. The Emperor was furious and after the investigation, the Minister of Revenue at the time was found to be in collusion with the thieves from Xi Bei country (Northwest) to riot. They used secret passages to steal and smuggle the gold away, it was impossible to ship these many gold out of Qiong Yue. The Ministry of Justice dispatched countless of groups of men and horses to pursue in all directions. The thieves from Xi Bei saw that they could not move the gold out so they used secret rock caves to store the gold inside. One of the group of men and horses who searched just happened to find the location of the gold, a delegation of five people. Among this group, one person went back to report, the other four people stayed at the

four directions of the rock cave to wait for the one who reported to the high ranking military officer to bring a large group of men and horses. The gold that were originally still in the rock cave disappeared without a trace one more time. Looking at each of the individual exit, they found that there were marks of wagons on the west side of the exit, the man who defended the west side was a young general called Qu Ze. He claimed to suffer an attack and some people stroke him until he fainted. He did not see who or where they transported the gold. It was a pity that the Imperial court did not believe him and he was determined to be in collusion with the thieves to smuggle the gold. During the questioning under tortures repeatedly, Qu Ze refused to admit guilt, he broke out of prison and ran away later. I just recently completed my study during that time, I wanted to become the best bounty hunter who would hunt down the criminals at all costs. I finally captured Qu Ze and took him back to the government office. I did not expect that half a month later, he would be beheaded, the criminal charges were having a secret tie with the thieves who wanted to riot, stealing the government's money."

Qu Ze could say that he was the one who captured him, the highest award money for a criminal, it was also his most severe case that he had ever dealt with. But he was never willing to mention it that he already felt faintly that he, himself seemed to make an error on this case.

Gu Yun's brain arranged the words that he was saying a moment ago and asked: "Yang Liu was the person who also found the gold during that time, he was the person who went to report it?"

This woman's thought was surely meticulous, she could already arrange and recommend the important point of the matter in a split second. Maybe he should really believe that they could help him to find out the truth about this matter.

Nodding, Qian Jing did not have any misgiving this time, generously answered: "En, during the time that I escorted Qu Ze to return to the capital, he said to me that he did not steal the gold continuously and he was stroke and fainted. It was Yang Liu who returned to report but unfortunately, nobody believed his words because Yang Liu arrived at the rock cave together with the large army. I did not believe him either at that time, it was rather his extremely quick execution

instead that made me think that something felt wrong but the person was already dead, what we could still do to investigate. Until I saw this person's wrist that had the same exact tattoo as Qu Ze's the day before yesterday. The design of the tattoo was special, it was impossible that I made a mistake so I decided to investigate, it was indeed the same Yang Liu who returned to report about the gold where about during that time."

"So you followed him?"

"I estimated that he had at least 1,000 taels of banknotes inside his bosom, it was impossible that a general would have that much salary. I determined that he had a problem, I hid myself at the outside room of his house at that time, once he discovered me unexpectedly and I barely mentioned about Qu Ze's name, he already showed his ferocious appearance and fought with me right away. That person who was inside the room with him also got into a fight together, I had no choice but to use the throwing knives but I did not shoot them towards his chest at that time, but yet the knife hit his chest and he was dead." Regarding this, he really did not understand!!

"One million taels of gold." Gu Yun could not help to whistle lightly, smilingly said: "Was this the reason why you were not willing to tell the truth to other people?"

"I did not have any confidence in these officials, if Qu Ze's words were true, then things were more complicated than Yang Liu could be manipulated!" The Ministry of Justice did not know how many people would be involved in this case during that time. How high was the level of the officials that participated in this matter after all, he was completely ignorant. He certainly could not say in this kind of situation, if he said it, it would make his own life even more dangerous.

Zhuo Qing looked one glance at Gu Yun, sighed and said: "The matter is surely more complicated than I can imagine." She originally thought that this was merely a common murder case, it seemed that now.....

Gu Yun raised her shoulder, her expression did not seem to be heavy, in a complicated case and after the painstaking investigation, it was still not because they bantered with words frequently\_\_\_\_##.

Seamlessly and lightly pulling Zhuo Qing to the side, Gu Yun shot a glance at

the shadows that were at the corner of the outside prison door, smiled and said towards Qian Jing: “The people whom you have been waiting for should already come, come out, ok.”

Gu Yun’s speaking voice was just left, the shadows appeared to be two silhouettes astonishingly, one male and one female. The male was dressed in a black ink, with silver hair and the female was dressed in red that looked like blood, the face was wearing a pure gold mask. These two people appeared to be wordless and uncommunicative, abnormal ghosts.

# Record of Washed Grievances Chapter 63: A Reputation's Crisis

My second most favorite chapter (as my most favorite chapter so far is probably ch 66)... And this chapter is probably the longest one so far. Over 8 pages long (over 4,800 words)... We'll see if you ladies are squealing at our foxy PM who steals something and then "runs away" .... 😊

Good job, Asu, for guessing what YHT was trying to accomplish by parading on a horse with ZQ in the previous chapter!

This chapter was edited by Din2.

Astonishingly, a male and a female appeared, the male was dressed in black ink dress, a pale complexion matched with a silver hair, somewhat looked like a scary person. The female was dressed in red blood dress, there was a golden mask on her face, only a pair of cold eyes were exposed. Both of them appeared to be wordless and uncommunicative, abnormal monsters, just liked coming out of the underground, in addition to their odd clothing, Zhuo Qing and Gu Yun looked somewhat foolish.

Straightforwardly staring at their looks, actually when they came in, they had already arrived. Originally they planned to wait until they left afterwards to appear but did not think that the tiny woman discovered their whereabouts unexpectedly.

All four of them were looking at each other, Zhuo Qing and Gu Yun felt that these two people produced some vision attacks that they used as a measurement to show their strengths.

If they continued to look at each other like this, the sky would already be bright!! Qian Jing who was being excluded by them finally was unable to endure it, then started the introduction and said: "Ao Tian, Ye Mei, Qiong Yue's number one and number two's bounty hunters."

Bounty hunters, Zhuo Qing had increased her knowledge, speaking that they

were number one and number two, she absolutely believed that both of their auras were extremely strong.

Lightly nodded towards them, Zhuo Qing generously introduced and said: "Qing Ling."

"You were that woman who cut open the corpse at the palace?" The voice of the man in black dress was very ordinary, not particularly deep, also not very magnetic, but definitely special enough, every word would let you listen to it clearly but absolutely did not have any emotional feeling.

"Yes." Zhuo Qing nodded dazzlingly, he knew about this?? She thought that the information was hard to get in this ancient time, it seemed that she was wrong now..... The male looked towards Gu Yun, Gu Yun did not avoid either, smilingly said: "Qing Mo."

His eyebrows knitted lightly for only a short one quarter second, it was already enough for Gu Yun to understand his suspicious mind, smiled candidly, Gu Yun said: "You do not need to think so hard, I do not have any glorious achievement that is sufficient for the both of you to take notice to." She was always inside the General's manor to battle and fight with the brave men, he would not know her.

Amazingly, his face stopped for half a second this time, it was serene soon after. Gu Yun was very interested towards him, after all, he could control his own face muscle without revealing his emotion, it was very rare that he was already this powerful.

Gu Yun studied carefully, Zhuo Qing was actually in cold sweat repeatedly, no one would wish to be interpreted by a stranger especially this kind of 'very able person'!! Did she not see that the woman in the red dress was emitting a cold ray that was enough to freeze her to death?!! Sometimes she really did not know if Yun was the exquisite kind of woman or thick skinned!! Lightly coughing to attract their attentions, Zhuo Qing started to introduced to the main subject: "Well, I think it is necessary to clarify this first since everyone's goal is to expose the truth about this case. There are two ways now, the first one is to investigate on our own and the other one is to join forces to do the investigation. We are really sincere to cooperate with you all, what do you all think about this idea?"

Both of them did not speak for a very long time, just when Zhuo Qing prepared

to interpret that they would do the investigation on their own separately, the male said once again: “How do you all want to investigate?”

Zhuo Qing looked towards Gu Yun, this was her specialty, luckily Gu Yun already had a plan, spoke frankly with assurance: “First, we have to find the murder weapon. The deceased had 13 wounds but they only found twelve throwing knives, in other words, the murder weapon had already been taken away. Even if the murderer was some expert and could shoot the deceased to die from a long distance, that person would need to retrieve the murder weapon. There were four people who might be able to do this, the deceased’s friend, Li Zhi, the deceased’s madam, Yang Shi (see 1 below), also the people who rushed over afterwards, Huang Yi and Wang Wei. One of these four people, even if some were not the murderer, they would surely help the murderer. The top priority job is to find these four people.”

Zhuo Qing nodded her head, assuredly said: “As long as we can find the murder weapon, we can do another comparison to the corpse again and Qian Jing’s criminal charge will be purged by half.”

“Secondly, the matter of that gold. Yang Liu’s death was extremely unexpected, clearly that the murderer wanted to set Qian Jing up behind this matter. It should be related to that case of the stolen gold, one million taels of gold was absolutely impossible to disappear without a trace. They carelessly concluded the case during that time and we still did not know any trace of the gold up until now. Yang Liu was surely the inside information or perhaps just because he knew too much so they would kill him. If we can find the related benefactor of this case during that time, we may be able to find the murderer.”

Gu Yun looked towards both of them and said: “I have finished talking, you all want to say anything.”

Both of them looked one glance at each other, it seemed that they had a consensus: “You all go to investigate those several people, give us the case of the gold, three days later around zishi (between 11 pm – 1 am), we will exchange the information here.”

Was three days enough time to investigate this?? Gu Yun was still thinking, but both of them already left the prison cell, with strange skills quickly and suddenly

jumped up, several ups and downs, leapt from the roof top and disappeared without a trace, while she was still speaking in her own mind..... Looking towards the calm and collected face of Qian Jing who was sitting on the side, Gu Yun asked: “Were they in a hurry?”

Grabbing a dry grass and holding it in his mouth once again, Qian Jing, with unhappy face answered: “Content with your situation, ok, the words that you and him said, could already be regarded as a lot, you did not see that he did not even pay attention to me.....##, was there anybody who would ask his opinion?!!”

“Then it was indeed an honor.” It seemed to be correct, Gu Yun felt relief and said towards Zhuo Qing: “Let us go, it is already late.”

Walking to pass through the inside of the prison, Zhuo Qing speculatively said: “We will look for Li Zhi tomorrow?”

Gu Yun nodded her head: “En, summing it up to see, he has the biggest suspicion. But I still want to examine that several people’s confession transcripts first.”

“Now?” Zhuo Qing lowly shouted: “Miss, it is already in the wee hours.”

Gu Yun only smiled and answered: “You go back with Lou Xi Yan first, I will wait in front of the Prime Minister’s manor at 9 o’clock tomorrow morning.” Only three days, she must find the person who hid the murder weapon after all!

“Fine.” Zhuo Qing was helpless, Gu Yun was absolutely a workaholic, trying to persuade her was simply a waste of time.

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The moment that Zhuo Qing and Gu Yun came out, Lou Xi Yan already asked two chariots to come, Gu Yun was sticking to the side of Zhuo Qing’s ear, lowly said: “Qing, you really have a dog poop’s luck, you have met this very good man, hold on to him firmly.” After she finished speaking, she still blinked towards her, Zhuo Qing remained silent, what kind of nonsense was this analogy, the meaning of what she said was that Lou Xi Yan was a dog poop?! (See 2 below)

Not feeling like bothering with her, Zhuo Qing got into the chariot immediately, she only heard that Gu Yun and Lou Xi Yan were talking outside the chariot but had no idea what they were saying. A moment later, Lou Xi Yan’s

smiling expression entered the chariot, and the chariot ran out slowly.

Somewhat curious, Zhuo Qing still asked: "What did she say to you just now?"

"She said....." Pausing for a while to tempt Zhuo Qing's appetite, Lou Xi Yan with a smile on his face looked towards her, answered softly: "She said to make me love you dearly and nicely."

Love you dearly and..... nicely.....

@,\*,\$, What kind of words were these!! Zhuo Qing cursed at Gu Yun in her heart at once!

The chariot arrived at the Prime Minister's manor very quickly, both of them walked in together, the night was very deep, besides the several lanterns for the lighting, everything was already fast asleep. Zhuo Qing looked one glance at the man who was accompanying her for the whole night, sincerely said: "Xi Yan, thank you for today." If it was not because of him, it was possible that she could not see Qian Jing so smoothly.

Walking the trail alongside with her quietly, Lou Xi Yan's footsteps were slow, faintly answered: "The matter of the Ministry of Justice is originally under my supervision, you do not need to thank me for this matter."

Zhuo Qing did not say anything again, she seemed somewhat get used to it that he would not let people to have a burden to feel his warm like this. Both of them bypassed the front courtyard, just saw Jing Sa's black face was waiting in that place.

"Master." Jing Sa met up at the side of Lou Xi Yan's ear, did not know what he said, but Lou Xi Yan nodded tranquilly. Even though from Jing Sa's always cold face and Lou Xi Yan's eternal tranquil eyes, she could not see anything exceptional but it was already this late. She felt faintly that some matter was certainly happened, Zhuo Qing asked anxiously: "Did anything happen?"

Lou Xi Yan shook his head lightly and answered: "It is nothing, it is late, you should go rest early."

Fine, he was not willing to say it, that meant that he could solve the problem, Zhuo Qing did not ask anymore question, crossed over them, she walked over to Zhai Xing pavilion. Only walking away for several steps, she heard the sound of a

peculiar woman's call: "Yo~ you are finally willing to come back."

Zhuo Qing narrowed her eyes, it was Xue Xian Xin. She was so tired, she did not have the mood to accompany her to play. Zhuo Qing ignored and wanted to bypass her, but she did not let her go passing her unexpectedly, Zhuo Qing was annoyed.

She had not started talking yet, Lou Xi Yan already walked to come over. Seeing Lou Xi Yan, Xue Xian Xin changed her countenance immediately, grudgingly said: "Xi Yan, you are surely exhausted, right, your dad has been waiting for you for the whole evening at Qian Ting pavilion."

Dad? Was Lou Xi Yan's father not the General who guarded the west border, how did he come back?! With regard to this, Zhuo Qing felt very strange all along, Lou Xi Yan was under one person but above ten of thousands of people's Prime Minister, how did his father still want to guard the border area?! It was said that his father requested it on his own, really a strange person!

Lou Xi Yan coldly answered: "I know."

Zhuo Qing, herself did not know what the matter was, just barely wanted to leave, Xue Xian Xin stopped her way with an optimistic expression on her face, she said: "Hold on, you can not go, Laoye (it's very common that a wife calls her husband 'Laoye'-姥爷 in the ancient time, it can be translated as old master) wants to meet with you."

See me.....##, Zhuo Qing already guessed, it would probably not any good deed to wait for her!

Zhuo Qing resigned to look at Lou Xi Yan for one glance, helplessly sighed and said: "Let us go, ok."

The two people were following the exceptionally excited Xue Xian Xin to Qian Ting pavilion, the dark and quiet official manor, the inside of Qian Ting pavilion was lighted splendidly, the candle light flickered gently.

A 50 years old male sat above the master's seat, he wore a wide ash blue paozi (Chinese style gown), square face with tiger eyes, forehead was plump, complexion was slightly cold, tall and sturdy figure, suntanned skin, robust body, emitting imposing manner all over that made people terrified.

Entering Qian Ting pavilion later on, Xue Xian Xin could be said to be very happy and excited to walk to the side of the man to wait for a spectacular show.

Lou Xi Yan also walked slowly to arrive in front of him, his face was wearing his usual smile and he asked: "Dad, how did you not say to me that you would be coming back!"

This person was Lou Xi Yan's father?! Zhuo Qing sighed secretly, he did not even resemble Lou Xi Yan who was like a tender, quiet and cold man. And this man appeared like a cold, firm and stubborn person.

Sure enough, like Zhuo Qing's expectation, he started to talk without any feeling and with a businesslike tone: "I know that you are busy, I return because of an official matter also, I will leave in a few days."

Lou Xi Yan accustomed to the manner and answered: "I know. It is already late, you have an early rest, ok."

"You also know that it is really late now!!" This sentence at least had a little moodiness inside, even though it was from anger.

Zhuo Qing kept silent to show respect, Lou Mu Hai's tiger eyes turned suddenly, and were staring at her, he asked with a cold voice: "Are you Qing Ling?"

Looking at the other person's eyes to reply his question was considered courteous, Zhuo Qing did not avoid his threatening's line of sight, sincerely answered: "I am."

Lou Mu Hai could finally see this woman whom Xian Xin said this afternoon, even though she was disfigured, her countenance was not bad. She dared to face him squarely so she figured to have a little courage and insight. Feeling a little acceptance in his heart towards her, Lou Mu Hai coldly said: "No matter how you conduct your own affairs in the past, since you have already entered the Lou's family now, just like any person in the Lou's family, you have to abide by the Lou family's rules. You should be more cautious in your speech and to abide by the woman's morality scrupulously."

Cautious in speech and to abide by the woman's morality scrupulously? Zhuo Qing raised her eyebrows lightly and answered: "You can speak clearly a little bit

for one more time.”

Lou Mu Hai knitted his eyebrows, this kind of matter originally should not be his responsibility to say as an older man, but in the capacity of the Lou great family's elder, he should be considered to remind her here, how did she still want to be clear about?! Sure enough, she was not a sensible woman! His first favorable impression disappeared right away.

Looking at Lou Mu Hai's expression, Xue Xian Xin guessed roughly what was in his mind and she seized the chance to incite and say: “Just do not make you to go out to attract the opposite sex, to show off flirtatious behavior, to lose Xi Yan's face!”

Sure enough that she was out to pick a quarrel!! Exhaustion made Zhuo Qing even more impatient, looked at Xue Xian Xin coldly, Zhuo Qing answered with a cold sound: “Even if you want to incite a quarrel, to distort the truth deliberately is your whole meaning of living, but you still must have an evidence before you speak, for which reason do you say that I attract the opposite sex and show off flirtatious behavior?”

Zhuo Qing's attacking line of sight made Xue Xian Xin trembled a little, but Lou Mu Hai was behind her so she was aware that she had a supporter so Xue Xian Xin held her head high, continued to shout loudly: “You still do not dare to admit on your own affair ah! That Official Dan came to find you today, furthermore, you and the Emperor rode a horse together parading yourselves around town ostentatiously. Who can not see if they have eyes!! Do not think that all of the people are idiots, who are not discussing about this spiritedly in the imperial court and the ordinary people now. However, Xi Yan has said that you are his woman in front of everybody, you are so fast and loose now, where are you going to put his face!!”

Zhuo Qing's complexion sank, her brows knitted lightly, with a thoughtful manner. Looking at her continuous silent and with no angry flame like before, Xue Xian Xin intentionally said: “Were you so aggressive a moment ago? You can not say anything now, right!”

It was not that Zhuo Qing could not say anything, but to handle Xue Xian Xin, this scratching sinister nasty person, she could make her dumbstruck and was

unable to reply at any time, but the words that she was just saying now reminded her that Dan Yu Lan came to find her today was probably a coincidence. But Yan Hong Tian came to the Prime Minister's manor was surely premeditated long ago. There was a chariot but he did not take it, it must be that he wanted to ride a horse together with her and parade around town ostentatiously. Could it be that it was merely for her to look at the scenery and dally with her?! No! He wanted to tarnish her reputation and integrity, wanted to let Xi Yan to lose his face, this man was extremely repulsive! This good opportunity, Xue Xian Xin would naturally not let Zhuo Qing get away with this, she still wanted to continue to say something? Lou Xi Yan who was silent suddenly interrupted her words: "She is very tired today, the night is also not early now, you all return to rest early, ok."

"Xi Yan, how come you still help her to speak now, this kind of woman is not worth mentioning."

"Second mother, I have my own propriety." Lou Xi Yan's voice was slightly cold, the high spirits and wish to continue's Xue Xian Xin did not pay attention, the always cold eyes of Lou Mu Hai could actually see it clearly, it seemed that Xi Yan cared about this girl very much. Let it be, since he was protecting her, he would just give him this reputation, ok.

Lightly waving his hand and preventing Xue Xian Xin who still wanted to talk, Lou Mu Hai clearly said: "Ok, this matter will be counted as finished, from today forward, Qing Ling must not go out, stay at home to study a female's Buddhist monastic discipline, cultivate her moral and mental characters."

In other words, the meaning of this was that she was forbidden to go out lo, she was detained for how many days, it was with great difficulty that she had to endure until her free time, if she would agree to be confined again, she would have something wrong!! Putting off this discussion that she could not go out until later was all right, right? This inconvenient matter would naturally come to seek her.

Zhuo Qing looked at Lou Mu Hai one more time, without a single perfunctory sentence, she answered: "Old General Lou, I am very sorry to bring Xi Yan any inconvenient with this kind of rumor, but it is definitely not what I wish for, I will pay more attention in the future to avert this kind of matter from happening as

much as possible, as far as forbidding me to go out, I can not do it.”

Lou Mu Hai's tiger eyes were wide opened, she dared to contradict him unexpectedly, what a good answer of 'she could not do it'! He gave her a way out of an embarrassing situation, but she not only did not want to withdraw but also challenge him!

A bang (loud) sound, Lou Mu Hai slapped the side low table heavily and it broke into two suddenly, the teacup and candlestick holder broke into pieces on the ground.

Zhuo Qing did not anticipate that Lou Mu Hai would show his big temper like this, this person was Xi Yan's father after all, and she was also in the wrong in this matter.

Xue Xian Xin finally recovered from being frightened, pointed at Zhuo Qing, lowly shouted: "Laoye, you see, you see! Relying on Xi Yan's doting on her, she is simply undisciplined and out of control!!" It was not easy for Laoye to come back, if she did not give that woman a hard time, she would not be called Xue (as her family name)!

"Laoye, she absolutely does not pay attention to you, she....."

"That is enough." Xue Xian Xin said proudly and happily, Lou Xi Yan's berated coldly and made her to shut up immediately.

"I will handle this matter on my own, dad, second mother, you all rest early." Pulling Zhuo Qing's hand, Lou Xi Yan dropped his words faintly and he went out without looking back.

They..... They just left like that....###, Laoye..... "Xian Xin, let it be." Staring at the rear view of the two people who were leaving, Lou Mu Hai's eyes flashed through a trace of rapidness that made people nearly clutched from pain too late.

Lou Xi Yan's hand was still cool slightly just like in the past, but the strength that he was using to hold her palm was somewhat heavy, but it did not make anybody to feel any pain. Zhuo Qing looked one glance at both of them who were holding hands, ultimately still not pulling out of her hand, she remained silent all the way. The two people were wandering at the quiet trail of the Prime

Minister's manor like this, Lou Xi Yan took her to Zhai Xing pavilion, Zhuo Qing thought to herself on what she would say: "I am sorry."

Originally, he was just about to release his hand but the hand was tightened once again, Lou Xi Yan asked with a soft voice: "Why are you apologizing?"

"You help me but yet I cause trouble so your reputation suffers a damage." If it was not for Lou Xi Yan who took her out of the Imperial palace, she might not have the opportunity to see Yun and he also dealt with that moody man. She perhaps could not look this casual like this now, she should thank him for all of these. However, Yan Hong Tian came to trick them unexpectedly, as a man, this cuckold (husband of an adulterous wife) should probably be the most serious insult and shock, right, Yan Hong Tian's trick was very fierce!

Lou Xi Yan faintly laughed and answered: "I am a man, these matters do not affect me at all, as for you, you must not think too much, I will handle this properly."

She admitted that his faint smile, tranquil's eyes, soft and low voice, would make people unable to resist him, unquestionable strength, would make you unaware to depend on him, believe him. But Zhuo Qing had never paid attention to anybody who had either praising or disparaging insight, raised her head to laugh willfully, Zhuo Qing indifferently answered: "You do not need to worry because of me, I definitely do not care about these ridiculous rumors and slanders, even more so, I do not care how other people look at me."

Raising her eyes slightly that were even more dazzling than the bright stars, then raising the corner of her mouth to show her disdain and contempt, Lou Xi Yan could sense that she was not trying to be brave, she just thought like this with her own self confidence and self arrogance.

Tightening his hand once more, Lou Xi Yan nodded and with a serious face, he said: "In fact, this is also good."

Both of their palms were sticking to each other, Zhuo Qing was somewhat absentminded and she asked: "What is good?"

"Nobody knows how good you are so nobody will fight with me." (Awwwww...). The almost gentle drift of the wind's whisper made Zhuo Qing to believe she misheard it.

“You.....” ##, ##, ##, #.

The moist and plump lips was pursing up lightly, carrying a faint of smiling expression, the night wind blew both of their sleeves as if they were in a tangle together. The faint midstream of the ambiguous smell made Zhuo Qing unable to say any sentence for a long time.

“Go to sleep, ok, you have me for everything.” The gentle low chant echoed once again, Zhuo Qing could only see that beautiful face approached slowly, very very slowly, it was slow enough for her to react but she was unable to move and also did not want to move..... She thought that he would kiss her lips but he did not, he kissed the corner of her lip softly, gentle liked a feather that passed through, the warm of the breath was spraying on her face and her cheek. Zhuo Qing heard her own heartbeats that were thumping and palpitating, she knew it for the first time that this kind of soft kiss could already enough to make people’s heart like a rippling lake.

Her mind was blank for a split second, she only felt that he let go of her hand softly, he still turned around to leave unhurriedly, Zhuo Qing recovered when she saw that silhouette disappeared in front of her eyes.

At the same time, she could not cry piteously... What were she doing after all.. It was not because of this one kiss, a kiss that was not even on her lips, she was blushing and her heart jumped like this ah..... Finally saying, this was all Lou Xi Yan’s mistake, she was caught off guard with this kiss, he abandoned saying anything and just left, boo hoo, boo hoo (crying).

Sian’s notes:

1. This Shi 氏 is a calling for a married woman (sort of like a respectful calling), the translation said it’s a maiden name or clan name but I don’t think it’s totally correct as a maiden name means that Shi is her maiden name before she’s married but it’s not the case here. Any married woman can be called Shi after their husband’s last name. So in this case, her husband’s name is Yang, that’s why she’s called Yang Shi. When ZQ is married to LXY, she can be called Lou Shi.

2. That dog poop luck’s raw characters were 走狗屎运了 -zou gou shi yun le). I’m not sure whether I’ll call this an idiom or slang. But the meaning of that

words are that somebody that's lucky enough to get someone or is able to work at a big corporation. For example in this case, since GY have LXY a 99 mark which is almost a perfect point, ZQ is so lucky to find this man for her. Another example is when, say that you just graduate from a small college but yet you can get a job in a big & prestige company so you have a really good luck. As for why it's associated with dog poop, I have no idea. That's the best explanation I can give you...

Ok, the words father that Qian Lu (the author) was using varies from 爹-die, 老爸-laoba, 父亲-fuqin. I think fuqin is the most formal appellation, while laoba is the least formal one.

Wow, I didn't expect our foxy PM would steal a soft kiss... Squealing... I got goose bumps translating this. Awwww, LXY, I have to put him in the highest pedestal as the best of my favorite male character in C-novels. Sigh, where can I find a guy who acts like this charming fox???!!!

# Record of Washed Grievances Chapter 64: Who Was Lying

I have to admit that I get so lazy doing a translation when LXY is not in the chapter, like this long chapter. Over 3,550 words. Victoryqueen, you guessed it right, ZQ could not sleep after that soft kiss last night.

This chapter was edited by Din2.

Zhuo Qing appeared at the gate of the Prime Minister's manor at 10 o'clock in the morning punctually (see 1), she saw Gu Yun who was leaning at the outside of the fence of the manor, shutting her eyes to rest.

Walking in front of her, Zhuo Qing did not start talking, Gu Yun already opened her eyes, she casted one glance afterwards, raised her head with a trace of strange smile and asked: "What, did you go to be a thief last night? Or too intense....." The enormous dark circles under her eyes, swollen eyes, looked like she could not sleep well at all during the night. This appearance of Qing made her difficult not to let her imagination to roam ah~~~~ One look at her pervert expression, Zhuo Qing did not need to think and already knew what kind of hideous messy things in her mind!!

Recalling that one soft kiss last night, Zhuo Qing's expression was somewhat floating unnaturally, lowly scolded to say: "Stop your gossiping manner, I merely do not have enough sleep, that is all, you think everybody can be like you with so much vigorous energy!"

Yun was still wearing that blue skirt, she surely did not go back to the General's manor, sometimes she was very doubtful on Yun's body composition. It appeared as long as she could close her eyes to rest, her physical strength could recover rapidly, absolutely did not need to take a rest! This was different than another person's physique and really made people puzzle and enough for her to be jealous!

Unable to endure Gu Yun's probing look, Zhuo Qing changed the subject

hurriedly: “What did you find after you looked at the transcript?”

Withdrawing her line of sight, Gu Yun did not continue to bother her, Qing was an adult, and whatever matter that happened with Lou Xi Yan was also normal. According to her opinion, it would be best if Qing acted quickly, ate him up and wiped her hand clean, then put him in the purse (see 2)! After all, a man liked Lou Xi Yan was not many either.

Both hands were still on her chest, Gu Yun shrugged her shoulder and answered: “It could be rated as perfection, that content of the transcripts was less pitiful, the four people said exactly the same statements, it was like they were in agreement with each other, I did not find anything.” That was exactly her achievement from last last! Simply wasted her time.

Zhuo Qing raised her eyebrows, “So?” She estimated that they would be busy next.

Not letting her to be disappointed, Gu Yun helplessly smiled and said: “So we can only investigate one by one now, ask them one by one, look\_\_\_\_ who is lying after all.”

Zhuo Qing nodded her head, swept one glance at a man who had an impatient face and was not too far away, Zhuo Qing mockingly said: “When did you start having a small tail?” One was Gu Yun who with regards to a male and female’s matter was extremely unstable. One was a young and vigorous’ youngster with a rash head. Was it good that they were inseparable like this? What about Su Ling? In Zhuo Qing’s heart, Yun would still be better with Su Ling, after all, Su Yu was absolutely unable to resist Yun.

Zhuo Qing looked pensively, but Gu Yun’s face was calm, smilingly said: “There is nothing I can do, the identity of that person is a General, compare to us both who are nobodies and do not have any weight when we speak. Lou Xi Yan does not have any free time to accompany us, I can only find an alternative lo.” If it were not because of him, she would not ask about the transcripts last night.

“Qing Mo, whom did you say as an alternative!” Originally, he was not sleeping for the whole night to accompany this insane woman to run around everywhere last night, just enough to listen to Gu Yun’s words that could not recognize his good intention, his irritable roar echoed immediately.

“We will look for Li Zhi first?”

Gu Yun shook her head and answered: “No, I think we should pay a visit to Madam Yang first.” Yang Shi was the only woman from the four people, it should be easy to break her through the loop, it would be better to start from her.

“Good, let us go.”

Two people were talking over softly all the way, walking all the way without even paying attention to the man who was almost exploded with anger.

“So hateful!” This was the first time that Su Yu was ever ignored completely, he punched the brick stone on the wall to vent his rage. Glaring ferociously at both of them who were joking together, the women were proceeding and getting apart gradually, he was still following them closely after cursing at them.

Arriving at the Yang’s family small courtyard again, they saw Yang Shi was standing at the garden, bowing her head to sweep. Knowing that Gu Yun and Zhuo Qing arrived at the courtyard’s front door, she lifted her head to see their face clearly, Yang Shi asked strangely: “The government official just left, what do these two young ladies still need?” They were the women who came together with Dan Daren last night, she recognized them.

What was the government official doing to come this early? Gu Yun’s heart was pondering, her face laughed generously and said: “Right, Dan Daren will judge the case so he will need to gather a lot of evidences, there are some questions that we want to ask to make things convenient comparatively, so Dan Daren let us to look for you to chat in private.”

Yang Shi was somewhat ineffable, but she still nodded her head and opened the courtyard’s door: “Please come in, ok.”

Zhuo Qing and Gu Yun entered ahead, Su Yu who was on the back also followed to come in, Yang Shi recognized this person was the master of the General’s manor. Not daring to neglect him, he was also welcomed to come in, she was still attending to serve the tea: “Please drink the tea, but it is only some coarse tea, so please do not take offense.”

Zhuo Qing and Gu Yun sat at the side of the dining room’s round table, Su Yu was still angry so he sat on the bench near the side of the door, while drinking

the tea depressingly.

Gu Yun was facing Yang Shi and smilingly said: "Madam Yang, you do not need to be busy, we will ask a few questions and then leave, please sit down."

Yang Shi nodded her head and sat down in front of them. This time Gu Yun could really see the woman's face clearly in the end, she was young, she seemed to be no more than twenty years old, and looked very pretty. Not knowing whether or not it was a habit for a woman in the ancient times to always lower her head, this made Gu Yun had a headache. Gu Yun with a gentle tone, asked the questions: Madam Yang, how long did you and Yang Liu..... married?" The sound was truly awkward.

"Already two years." Yang Shi answered very tranquilly.

"How was your husband and wife's feelings originally?"

Yang Shi was startled slightly, she answered immediately: "Our husband and wife's feelings were good."

Gu Yun's expression flashed slightly and pretended to not paying attention and looked one glance at her wrist, she smilingly said: "Then, was your hand's injury caused by your own falling?"

Yang Shi lifted her head astonishingly and looked towards Gu Yun, she was sweeping the garden and pulling her sleeves a moment ago. But the moment she saw them plainly, she put the sleeves down immediately, these were already old injuries, she was still able to see it surprisingly!!

Facing Gu Yun's probing eyes, Yang Shi sighed lowly and once again lowered her head slowly, she answered in a low voice: "Husband's temper was somewhat anxious, his temperament was also quite violent. He used violence towards me when he got drunk sometimes, but he was still very considerate during normal times. My health is not good, if it is not because of him looking for physicians to treat my illness for all these years, I am afraid that I will not live this long."

Gu Yun did not continue to nag about this question, she changed the topic of their discussions and asked: "Is Li Zhi your husband's good friend? Does he or does he not come to your home frequently?"

Yang Shi seemed to relax a little and answered with loathing words: "Yes, he

came here to borrow money frequently, practically every day.”

“How much money did Yang Liu lend to him?” Gu Yun questioned closely.

Yang Shi was pondering for a moment and shaking her head, she answered: “I did not understand the family man’s affairs, but it should be a lot of money.”

Gu Yun exaggerated the “Oh” sound, smilingly said: “He was able to help you to treat your illness and also was able to lend money to Li Zhi. Looking at the stuffs in your home were not inadequate either, it looked like the official’s salary at the General’s manor was not low ah!” Finished speaking, Gu Yun casted a glance at Su Yu.

Su Yu carried the tea on his hand, he was very clear about the official’s salary of the General’s manor, according to this general’s income, it would truly be impossible to achieve these.

Yang Shi kept silent, Gu Yun continued to ask: “Did you or did you not know where Yang Liu’s money came from?”

Yang Shi shook her head: “I did not know.”

Gu Yun got up suddenly, smilingly said: “Very good, we disturb you this long, we should leave also.”

Just like this? She did not even ask anything with regard to the matter of the case ah?” Yang Shi’s face was puzzled but also did not say anything, she simply got up to give courtesy and then she answered: “Oh, good. Please take care.”

The three people left the Yang family’s house afterwards, after some distance from the Yang family’s house in silent, Zhuo Qing stopped her footsteps, urgently asked: “How was it?”

Gu Yun raised the corner of her mouth slightly, answered affirmatively: “She was lying.”

She just went in there, asked some trivial questions and already concluded that she was lying? Because of his early’s resentment towards them, Su Yu could not help to say snottily: “For which reason did you say that she was lying? I saw that she answered honestly ah!”

Gu Yun leaned her head to look towards him and threw out a short sentence

unexpectedly: “Are you a virgin?”

What. What..! This.. question, Su Yu’s face was embarrassed, he could not help to roar loudly: “What did you say?!”

Zhuo Qing was holding back her smile slightly and waiting to see a good show.

His eyebrows were raised and pulled closer to the center, upper eyelids were raised, lower eyelids were braised. Pointing her finger at Su Yu’s face, Gu Yun lowered her voice and answered: “This was nervous.”

Su Yu stumped for words and did not react to what she was saying, Gu Yun continued to ask: “Answer the question, are you or are you not?”

“You are joking..... How can I still be a...” Su Yu ## was still roaring.

Gu Yun nodded satisfyingly and smilingly said: “This is a lie.”

Glaring tenaciously at Gu Yun, Su Yu said hurriedly: “I am not!!”

Patting his shoulder, Gu Yun with a pity face answered: “Ok, if you do not want people to see you are saying a lie next time, so please do not lie with hesitation and repeat the lie harshly, also do not retreat subconsciously and swallow a saliva.”

Su Yu bowed his head to look at his own feet, he really retreated one step unconsciously a moment ago, how could it be like this?! Seeing through the perception of his lying was really terrible, especially this type that made people to suffer frustration from the question. Hesitating and not knowing what he should say, Gu Yun was staring at his face, smilingly said: “This facial expression is called embarrassing now.”

Su Yu could not stop Gu Yun’s words and was unable to say anything, he did not know whether his face was embarrassed or angry, it was somewhat red unexpectedly.

Zhuo Qing could not help to laugh heartily at Su Yu’s embarrassing face, he answered unwillingly: “What is so amazing about this, how do you know that she is not pretending!?”

Su Yu’s voice was barely off, Gu Yun raised her legs ruthlessly and stamped on his foot firmly.

“Ah\_\_\_\_\_” It hurt him so! Glaring at Gu Yun, Su Yu roared lowly: “Darn it! What are you doing!”

Both hands on her chest, Gu Yun explained with a stern face: “Your pain and anger are your real expression just now, the state of mind conveys your subconscious mind, basically it is hard to suppress and cover up the truth. The microfiber expression that happens in a moment is very intense to hide the expression, so if her facial expression somewhat surpasses one second, then it is fake.”

So it was like this, Su Yu pondered over seriously, Gu Yun who still wanted to show a serious face just now, ridiculed again and said: “I am just saying things randomly, you do not need to try too hard to ponder over, with your IQ like this, you will not have any result either even if you work hard.”

What was the meaning of her words!! Just wanting to flip out, Zhuo Qing walked to his side and pat his shoulder, sympathetically said: “Pitiful chick, who makes you to meet this woman with a malicious mouth, it is a pity, ok.”

Finished speaking, the two women were laughing heartily one more time.

“You two…….” Why did he want to be here being ridiculed by them?! Su Yu turned and left abruptly and angrily.

Looking at his back that kept going further away, the two people restrained their smiling expression simultaneously, Zhuo Qing asked puzzlingly: “Why did you make him leave in anger?” Yun, this person, even though she was quite a direct person when she spoke but she was absolutely not the person who was unable to differentiate good from bad, just liked to ridicule and tease other people, she must have had her own reason to do this.

Gu Yun shrugged her shoulder slightly, answered somewhat helplessly: “When I was looking at Li Zhi’s biography last night, I found out one interesting coincidence.”

“What?”

“He was unexpectedly together with Qu Ze during that time, one of the four who was guarding the exit of the rock cave.” She wanted to look for some clues from Li Zhi’s side, but she did not wish for Su Yu to be pulled into the gold’s old

case.

Zhuo Qing understood: “And so Yang Liu would want to lend him money continuously, perhaps only because he knew the secret of the gold case during that time?!” They finally made a little progress, Zhuo Qing was dragging Gu Yun and she said hurriedly: “Go, we can look for him now.”

Her hand was being pulled, Gu Yun did not struggle either, only harbored malicious intentions and smilingly said: “Your concern towards Qian Jing is somewhat excessive oh.”

Here we go again, she was staying idled and not doing anything to ridicule her all day long, not feeling like looking at her, Zhuo Qing with a cold voice answered: “He is my savior, just this and nothing more!”

“En, this sentence is the truth.” Gu Yun nodded unhurriedly, smilingly said: “Then, what about Lou Xi Yan?”

Still not looking at her, Zhuo Qing answered somewhat patiently: “He is only an ordinary friend.” She was somewhat jittery when she mentioned this, she did not know it herself what kind of relationship that she and Lou Xi Yan had! Male and female friends?! And yet there was no confession, maybe it was her own imagination that her love was reciprocated! But he kissed her last night..... Hey..... “A lie.” Gu Yun exposed her lie relentlessly.

Releasing Gu Yun’s hand, Zhuo Qing was somewhat angry also: “It will be best that you stop before you go to far, less showing off of your power of observation.”

Eh, oh~ Angry la?! Both hands spread out, Gu Yun with innocent face laughed and said: “Please! Miss Zhuo, please look for a mirror to examine your own shy facial expression, I absolutely do not need to use any power of observation, ok!”

She still dared to say!

“Gu Yun, you look to get beaten!” Clenching her fist, Zhuo Qing hammered her hand towards her shoulder, unfortunately, Gu Yun’s vigorous skill dodged sideways effortlessly, the two people were teasing all the way and finally arrived at Li Zhi’s residence very quickly.

Li Zhi lived near the city gate in a small courtyard, shabby roof tile house, very

small front yard's door, it seemed to be somewhat unfrequented.

From a distant, Gu Yun and Zhuo Qing saw a few bailiffs who were guarding at the front door, numerous sounds came out from the inside of the house from time to time. The two people looked one glance towards each other thinking that maybe the matter was already changed. Walking to the front of the door, Zhuo Qing stepped forward and seemed to see a somewhat familiar looking bailiff and chatted: "What is going on in here?"

The bailiff looked at Zhuo Qing and Gu Yun one glance, he recognized them from yesterday who were following Prime Minister Lou and General Su together to the Ministry of Justice's prison. Thinking, the bailiff answered obscurely: "Dan Daren asked us to bring Li Zhi back to the government's office for questioning."

They should already go to the Yang's family home but they did not bring Yang Shi back, they wanted to bring Li Zhi back, could it be that they found out any clue?!

Zhuo Qing was still considering whether or not she wanted to continue asking questions, there was a man's yelling sound that came from the inside of the house: "I did not kill Yang Liu, I had not killed anyone, that knife was not mine!!"

Knife? Zhuo Qing and Gu Yun were alarmed, did they find the murder weapon!?

Just when Zhuo Qing and Gu Yun's expressions were passing on each other to guess, two tall and strong bailiffs already pushed down one thin and tall man to walk out.

That man was struggling incessantly, his mouth hooted loudly and said: "Let go, do not think that you all can accuse me wrongly, that knife is not mine."

The bailiff who was at the foremost front did not pay attention to Li Zhi's shouting, with a cold voice said: "Whatever words that you want to say, you can speak them at the government office, ok! Take him away."

The delegation of men were pushing Li Zhi to walk over to the direction of the Ministry of Justice office.

"What should we do now?" Zhuo Qing saw a moment ago that bailiff who was leading in front was holding a package of stuff wrapped in a cloth on his hand. If

she did not guess wrongly, that should be the murder weapon.

Gu Yun laughed softly and exposed her excited expression, she answered: “Li Zhi did not tell any lie, that knife should not be his, it seemed that the murderer got impatient.” Finished framing Qian Jing and again shifted the blame on Li Zhi, if it was not because of the murderer’s deliberate trick, it was already somewhat confusing a little.

Facing Zhuo Qing to blink, Gu Yun with high spirits, smilingly said: “We will go forward with the gold case and see if there is any big progress oh.” This murderer recruited Li Zhi and put him to die, she could maybe beat somebody at their own game..... Gu Yun’s face showed a strong excitement, Zhuo Qing guessed what good show should be on stage.

The two people were following a group of bailiffs to go to the Ministry of Justice office, the people were gone and the place was empty, naturally no one would find out. There was a shadow at the corner of the broken house with a spoiled roof tile, a pair of shady untamed’s eyes were watching attentively and coldly at the two people’s who already departed.

Really interesting game, the cat that caught the mouse, who was the cat after all and who was the mouse also~ a muffled secret laughter, gloomy and cold lingered for a long time.

Sian’s notes:

1. The author, Qian Lu really did use 10 o’clock for the time instead of the ancient time so I wasn’t sure if it was a mistake on her or a typo.

2. This whole sentence was implying that ZQ should just “eat” LXY and pretty much be his real Madam.

# Record of Washed Grievances Chapter 65: Mental Battle

LXY, oh LXY, I need you to rescue me from boredom... Over 3,700 words.

For those of you who are still waiting for a new update for Gu Yun's story, I'm not the person who translates that story. I'm a guest translator here on Nutty's blog and will translate only ZQ's story, so I don't know when Nutty will update GY's story. Nutty is busy with writing her thesis now, so when she's done with her thesis, I'm sure she'll continue on posting GY's story.

This chapter was edited by Din2.

## Ying Tian Government Office

The spacious and bright lobby in the middle, a solemn face of Dan Yu Lan who was wearing a government official garment and behind the enormous case table, the just and honorable's characters plaque was hanging on the top of the wall above his head, the dazzling golden and big characters shined sparkingly. He was even more dignified against this prominent background, two rows of strong bailiffs who were wearing dark red clothing and separated in the left and right areas, their hands were grasping long staffs, their attitudes were very threatening.

Zhuo Qing was holding the autopsy report on one hand, the other hand was holding the murder weapon that was just found a moment ago to compare it. The measurement of the pattern in this case was basically right, this throwing knife was indeed identical with the wound on the deceased's chest but could you also be certain that the man who was kneeling at the lobby was actually the murderer? Zhuo Qing was skeptical but Dan Yu Lan was in the hall and also Gu Yun to judge the case and she did not need to be anxious, she could only look calmly to any change and it would be good.

This location could see clearly Li Zhi and Dan Yu Lan's expressions. Gu Yun was leaning satisfyingly at the furthest side of the pillar with a lazy attitude, her

petite figure did not attract any attention but if you looked face to face with that pair of elite eyes, you would immediately have this feeling like you could not hide anywhere.

“I did not kill Yang Liu, this was a set up! He was my good friend, I absolutely did not have any reason to kill him.” Li Zhi who was kneeling in the middle seemed to be calm now, his complexion was not so confused anymore.

“You owed a lot of money because of gambling for these past several years, the money that Yang Liu lent to you was more than 300 taels in the past. You owed fifty taels at the Wan Hao gambling house just this past three days, you went to the Yang’s family in order to borrow money, was it or was it not?”

Imposing voice and steady intonation made people to have a slight trembling feeling unconsciously, Zhuo Qing raised her eyebrows softly, the Dan Yu Lan who was in the law court was stricter and sharper than in ordinary times.

Li Zhi winced his nose slightly but his tone of voice was still unyielding like before: “So what, we were good buddies, it was not my first time to ask him to borrow money, could it be just because of this that you said I killed somebody?”

Confronting Li Zhi’s stubborn resistance, Dan Yu Lan seemed to be very calm and was still with that steady intonation, he continued to say: “According to Yang Shi’s testimony, Yang Liu did not plan to lend you the silver taels this time. He still wanted you to pay back the money instead so you were angry because of it. Also because of the unpaid debt, during the fights between Yang Liu and Qian Jing, you used the throwing knife deliberately to kill Yang Liu and then pushed the blame to Qian Jing.”

Did Yang Shi really say this? After she heard the inquiry, she put down in writing and could see it every day, Gu Yun raised her head to look one glance at Dan Yu Lan’s solemn face, raised a faint smile. Sure enough, the method of inquiry of the police officers from all times and in all places were the same virtually, appropriate swindling would receive the correct result.

As expected, Li Zhi was panicky now, then shouted immediately: “That woman understood nothing! Yang Liu only urged me not to gamble anymore. If I gambled again, then he would not lend me any money next time, I already promised him not to gamble anymore and he also prepared the silver taels to

give to me, what did I kill him for?!”

This confession was somewhat effective evidently, Dan Yu Lan with a cold voice said lowly: “This is only your side of the story, you still owe Yang Liu 300 taels even though you do not gamble anymore. Even if you do not eat or drink for seven to eight years, you still can not pay back this sum of money. And he has never made a loan receipt to you, so if you kill him then you do not need to pay him back!”

“I absolutely did not need to kill him, Yang Liu would not force me to pay back the money!”

Sticking out his chest and lifting his chin up, intonation was raised slightly, he was proud of himself! Gu Yun’s expression shimmered slightly, Li Zhi really knew some inside story, at the minimum it was enough to blackmail Yang Liu.

“Paying back the debt that you owed was a matter of course, why did he let you not pay back the money, what kind of agreement did you all still have?! Or did you use any information to blackmail him?!” Dan Yu Lan’s voice was very loud and appeared somewhat emotional. Zhuo Qing guessed secretly on how much Dan Yu Lan knew about the gold case after all. He would ask these kind of questions, at the minimum it proved that he already guessed that this case could involve someone who had ulterior motives.

Li Zhi finished listening to Dan Yu Lan’s words, pursed up his mouth consciously once again, hastily answered: “No, we were very close friends, if I had some difficulties, he would help me, just like that, nothing more.”

Li Zhi refused to admit that everything seemed to come full circle.

Zhuo Qing looked towards Gu Yun who was not too far, Gu Yun also looked towards her, she pointed a finger at herself, Gu Yun produced a ‘I will ask next’ gesture on her lips. Zhuo Qing nodded understandingly, she walked to Dan Yu Lan’s side and asked in a low voice: “What is your government official’s rank?”

Dan Yu Lan stared blankly, what was she doing asking this in the law court? He could of course ignore her but her big bright eyes had incomparably serious radiance, Dan Yu Lan answered: “Just second grade.”

Just second grade, he was already the same as the high official in the Ministry

of Justice's official, he could also be regarded as a high government official, right. If the gold case could only rely on her and Gu Yun, it would be impossible to succeed. They needed to look for one person whom they could trust and this person should also be able to lead and investigate this case, Dan Yu Lan would be the right candidate.

Softly leaning over, Zhuo Qing whispered in Dan Yu Lan's ear: "You ask the bailiffs to withdraw outside, I have a way to make him speak the truth."

She had a way?! Dan Yu Lan was looking at Zhuo Qing amazingly, she had self confidence's radiance in her own eyes. Thinking about it, Dan Yu Lan still said clearly: "Everybody withdraws."

"Yes." All the bailiffs went out, Li Zhi's eye flashed through a trace of fear and suspicion.

Dan Yu Lan was waiting for Zhuo Qing's so called way, who knew that she was motionless and standing on the side without saying any word. It was rather the tiny woman who was always leaning against the corner moved, stretched her body and walked to come over slowly.

Seizing the throwing knife that was on Zhuo Qing's hand, Gu Yun walked in front of Li Zhi's front, swayed the throwing knife with her hand and smilingly said: "Li Zhi, after the comparison, this knife was exactly the murder weapon that pierced into the deceased's chest and caused his death. At the time when Qian Jing and Yang Liu were fighting, you were at the scene so you had the opportunity to dispose the murder weapon. You were also near the corpse after the deceased died so you had the opportunity to conceal the murder weapon. How coincidental that you were still owing Yang Liu a large amount of silver. You had the opportunity to kill and you also had the motive to kill. Even the murder weapon just happened to appear in your home. Think for yourselves, in these kind of circumstances, do you not think that you are screwed?"

The row of sentences seemed to be spoken carelessly but if one analyzed it they were already thorough enough. Li Zhi originally was squinting with some contempt at the tiny young lady, but his complexion was dark now, urgently said: "I do not kill Yang Liu, this knife is really not mine."

Gu Yun nodded her head, understandingly answered: "I believe in you but all

the evidences were pointed towards you now, the murderer wanted to make you the scapegoat clearly!”

Lowering his head, Li Zhi’s expression was fluttering left and right in confusion, one could only hear a stuffy sound came through: “I..... I am accused wrongly!”

Carrying a trace of helpless smiling expression, Gu Yun pointed her finger at Dan Yu Lan and stared at Li Zhi who was already somewhat frenetic and said: “I believe that you are accused wrongly but it is useless because Official Dan will not believe you, unless you speak out about your and Yang Liu’s secret that can prove that you do not have any reason to kill him.”

Li Zhi finally lifted his head but did not dare to look face to face at Gu Yun, his eyelids were throbbing slightly, Li Zhi reluctantly answered: “We.. We are just good friends, there is no secret.”

Going around to circle Li Zhi, Gu Yun pretended to smile consciously and said: “So you certainly did not know, Yang Liu was only a small Lieutenant General at the General’s manor, how could he have so much silver taels and lend them to you lo?”

Li Zhi’s body was trembling and the same as Yang Shi, hastily answered: “I did not know.”

“You were lying!” Standing in front of Li Zhi, Gu Yun suddenly bended slightly, almost pressed on towards his eyes, that face that was always smiling suddenly sinking, she coldly said: “You not only knew, but also felt that you should have some of this money so you kept asking him for this money repeatedly and with absolute unrestrained!”

“I.....”

Gu Yun did not wait until he reacted and asked in attacking fashion: “You also participated in the gold case during that time, you knew that Qu Ze was accused wrongly. You also knew who was the secret hand behind the scene at that time, was it right or wrong!?”

“You.....” Li Zhi finished talking Gu Yun’s words, stared frighteningly like he wished to kill, he was unable to finish his sentence, she, she, she..... How did she know!! Impossible!!

Li Zhi was surprised by the line of questions, Dan Yu Lan who was sitting upright at the law court was also surprised. What ability did this woman have to go through the sky after all, she would actually know this matter who was unknown to the sky?!

Having looked at Li Zhi's appearance that was extremely frightened, Gu Yun raised another smile once again, stretched out her hands, unconcernedly answered: "There is nothing to be amazed about, we already seize the evidences in our hands. I let you to speak to give you the chance to make up for your earlier mistake, nothing more."

Li Zhi got completely panicky this time, he had not thought that the hidden matter that was concealed anxiously by him, was unexpectedly known by this tiny young lady, but how much did she know after all?! His own heart could only be panicky again, Li Zhi was mumbling lowly and repeatedly, and looked like he was comforting himself: "I..... can not say it..... If I say it, it will be the same as dead....."

That person would not let him off!

Furthermore, his familiarity with the situation was not announced during that time, he would not be alive either if the matter was exposed by him!!

Very good, he could just at least pretended to admit that he knew the inside information of the gold case! Not allowing him to think, Gu Yun exploded ferociously and said coldly: "If you do not talk, you are screwed! Do you think that the murderer will let you off? There were five people during that time, Qu Ze was dead, Yang Liu was also dead, would the murderer let you live?! You do not have any alternative now except to cooperate with us. Not only we can get rid of your criminal charge, we can also protect you. Otherwise, even if we let you leave this prison gate, how long do you think you still can live."

"I..." Li Zhi's mind flashed through Qu Ze's torturing face that did not look like a human shape, also Yang Liu's blood that was flowing on the side of his feet. His body seemed to feel like he was in an icehouse, but Li Zhi's forehead was sweating a cold sweat and it was flowing to his cheeks.

A hand was suddenly on Li Zhi's shoulder, Gu Yun continued to question near his ear intensely and said: "Speak up about the whole story of the matter during

that time, speak up about the name of the person who has planned the whole thing!! Speak up!”

“I... I can not say it... Can not say it! I do not know... I do not know!!” Being questioned intensely and repeatedly by Gu Yun, Li Zhi already slumped on the ground, his face did not require any interpretation, he was already frightened extremely and clearly.

“You all do not force me, I do not know.... I do not know anything!!” Practically out of his wits, Li Zhi roared continuously and lowly, he was already unable to stand in front of the tiny young lady who was only more than ten years old.

Gu Yun regained her hand slowly, did not say anything and turned around to Zhuo Qing’s side, she handed over the throwing knife to Zhuo Qing who helplessly shrugged her shoulder, his mental capability already changed a little bit weaker... Or maybe, the person who was behind the scene was extremely powerful?!

“Someone comes.” Dan Yu Lan called lowly, the bailiffs who were guarding outside entered the hall immediately.

“Hold the criminal to enter the prison and look after him sternly.”

“Yes.” The limping Li Zhi was dragged out, Dan Yu Lan looked towards Qing Mo, puzzlingly asked: “Why did you not continue to ask?” If she continued asking, he might already reveal the truth.

Qing Mo looked towards Zhuo Qing, Zhuo Qing sighed and explained: “He was already on the verge to collapse, if we kept to say something, he would not listen to anything now. According to a point of view of psychology, the more he would ponder in this kind of circumstances, the more it would make him panicky. We will add more fire tomorrow, he will surely speak the truth.”

She was used to Gu Yun’s way in asking the case incisively, people could practically not able to grasp it!

“Official Dan, we say goodbye now, it is best that you reinforce the protection for the criminal from now on, do not let the murderer to have an opportunity to exploit this situation.” Finished speaking, Gu Yun pulled Zhuo Qing. Two people were just about to leave the outside of the law court, Dan Yu lan called out to

them suddenly: "Miss Qing, please stay."

Whom did he call out? Zhuo Qing and Gu Yun looked at each other one glance, turned around to look towards Dan Yu Lan, they only saw that he was walking over really fast and stopping in front of Gu Yun, he cupped his hands and asked: "Dan mou has several questions that I hope Miss Qing will grant the teaching."

Gu Yun answered generously: "Say it."

Obtaining a nod of approval, Dan Yu Lan did not speak around the bushes and said: "You were only at the Yang family's home no more than a quarter hour, how did you know the position and location of the corpse at that time? How did you also know about the gold case? What kind of evidences and clues did you also have on your hand?"

"The first question, my own nose was especially sensitive with the smell of blood, even though it had been cleared up after the event, I could still feel the scent for a short time and the throwing knife left behind a lot of marks and the sword left behind the marks were a big different. I believe that I do not need to say, Dan Daren can distinguish them either, and the majority of the marks from the throwing knives inside the room, no matter the strength and the direction, they all were basically identical, only one knife's trace that was especially different. Summing it up, it was easy to guess where the location of the corpse was. Second question, we had met Qian Jing alone and he was the one who provided us with the clues of the gold case. Third, I did not have any evidence and clue with regard to the gold case in my hand, I was only... just now." Lightly raising her eyebrows, Gu Yun smilingly said: "Speaking recklessly."

Ao Tian and Ye Mei who were investigating the gold case had not returned either, she would naturally not know about the matter of the gold case but she had already said an appropriate lie and was threatening with regards to the investigation of the case, there was much benefits.

"I have finished speaking, I will take my leave." Looking at the one green and one blue silhouettes who were leaving unhurriedly, Dan Yu Lan with a pondering face did not stop them, he looked forward to some more abilities that they had.

When they left Ying Tian government office, it was already in the afternoon, Zhuo Qing asked: "Should we go to look for the other two people now?"

“En.” Even though she thought faintly that those two people were not the people who had any key figure, but she would not permit any trace of negligence in handling this case’s objective, so they would still go to take a look, ok.

“Miss Qing Ling.” After the two people walked out for several steps, an older woman’s voice faintly echoed. (See 1 below).

The two people were shocked a little, Zhuo Qing looked towards the old lady who asked the question: “Who are you?” (See 1 below).

The old lady smiled and answered: “This servant is Liu momo.” (See 2).

Calling herself momo, she must be the person from the palace, Zhuo Qing was jittery in her mind, that Emperor did not look to inconvenient her again, right!!

Zhuo Qing impatiently asked: “What do you want?”

That momo still maintained a smiling expression and answered: “The Empress Dowager has an Imperial decree to declare Miss Qing Ling to enter the palace to have an audience.”

The Empress Dowager?!

Zhuo Qing stared blankly, when did she also arouse the attention from the Empress Dowager?! One Yan Hong Tian was enough to trouble her!

Gu Yun was watching the married woman’s face attentively, then she asked: “Are you the Empress Dowager’s person?”

“Yes.” Looking towards Zhuo Qing, the old lady said: “Please, Miss Qing.”

Gu Yun was following Zhuo Qing’s side but the old lady obstructed her with courtesy, however her manner of speaking was not gentle: “This lady, please stay here, the Empress Dowager has only called for Miss Qing Ling.”

Even though the old lady’s face was smiling but it was not sincere, however, she should really speak the truth. She should really be the Empress Dowager’s person, a chariot was park not too far away. There were four well built men by the sides of the chariot, it appeared that if Zhuo Qing did not submit obediently, they would also have taken her away.

Gu Yun did not observe that several men seriously, but the opposite side was the Empress Dowager so she was afraid if she could afford to offend her.

“You go now, I will help you to look for Lou Xi Yan.” Gu Yun said it very clearly to comfort Zhuo Qing and also to warn Liu momo not to act blindly without thinking.

“En.” Yun would handle the next affair, Zhuo Qing felt relieved. Looking towards the side of the momo, she generously said: “Then, I will have to trouble momo to lead the way.”

The chariot carried Zhuo Qing and left, Gu Yun hurried to go to the Prime Minister’s manor urgently.

Sian’s notes:

1. Again that term old/older woman are using 苍老-canglao which means old/ages and 老妇人-laofuren which means old lady. Isn’t that crazy how many titles this author, Qian Lu can use to describe old woman...

2. The term that she uses is 刘-Liu which is her surname and she uses her title as 女麽-momo. I actually can’t find the character in my phone keyboard but the character is a combination of that two characters. Some people translate this character as wet nurse, but it feels weird to use wet nurse. Since the character can also be translated as an elder lady, originally I want to use elder lady instead, however I have decided to keep the pinyin words momo rather than trying to translate the words.

## Record of Washed Grievances Chapter 66: Was This Regarded As A Proposal?

Ok, the title gives away what is going to happen in this chapter. ZQ, if you're still doubting our foxy PM, I'm going to steal him from you!!! What more do you want him to do???

Victoryqueen, how many correct guesses did you have?

Over 4,300 words...

This chapter was edited by Din2.

The chariot was galloping rapidly, Zhuo Qing was pondering all along secretly on why the Empress Dowager looked for her after all, was it another trick from Yan Hong Tian?! Or was it because of Lou Xi Yan? When her train of thought was still in confusion, the chariot stopped inside the palace, then Zhuo Qing followed the momo to walk east and west. Finally it stopped in front of the palace, Zhuo Qing raised her eyes, the gate of the courtyard had a written 'Xi Xia Palace', was it not just the West Empress Dowager's palace, right, this was not very creative at all.....

Secretly cursing, Zhuo Qing remained at the outside of the courtyard, that momo came back once again soon and spoke towards her: "Miss Qing, this way please."

Following her to go to the inside of the palace hall, Zhuo Qing was a little shocked, she originally thought that this Empress Dowager wanted to meet with her alone, she did not expect that there were also many women inside of the palace hall. Each and every woman was absolutely beautiful, she received a touch of surprise and bewilder eyes, Zhuo Qing raised her eyes, unexpectedly, Qing Feng was also there.

Moving forwards once more, Zhuo Qing finally saw the Empress, after the Empress saw her face clearly, she flashed through a trace of complicated mood that came out discriminatingly for a moment.

“Are you Qing Ling?” A gentle voice of a woman faintly echoed, Zhuo Qing looked towards the furthest seat of the master, one slightly plump madam was looking her up and down. (The wording that the author used could be translated either fat or plump, 胖-pang so I used the word plump instead). She was wearing a dark reddish purple cheong sam, simple head ornament, it seemed to be very plain and simple, her smile was also cordial.

“Yes.” Zhuo Qing generously answered.

“Come here next to Aijia.” (Aijia, a similar third party calling for self for the empress, the same as Zhen for the emperor).

Zhuo Qing did not hesitate at all, walked to her side magnanimously, this Empress Dowager started to size her up, down, left and right. She almost got goose bumps, she grasped her hand suddenly and smilingly said: “Prime Minister Lou’s foresight is indeed pretty good, you are really a vivid girl, this acquired name was also good, the person is as her name, what do you all say ah?”

“What the Empress Dowager has said is correct, Miss Qing.... not right ah, we should call Madam Lou, this person not only looks beautiful but also seems like a fairy, clever and quick witted also, really makes people to admire her.”

“Yes ah, we hear at an earlier time that every one of the three Qing family’s women is overflowing with emotion, they are very beautiful, we see the two of them today, as expected, their names are not in vain.”

Even though they were disfigured, they could still be called beautiful as fairies.....

Meeting for the first time, they already knew that she was overflowing with emotion, also clever and quick witted..... Zhuo Qing’s head was filled with sinister lines immediately. If these women continued on saying this again, she was afraid that she could not endure not to vomit. Seamlessly retaking her hand, Zhuo Qing immediately asked: “The Empress Dowager, what matter do you have to look for me, there is no harm to speak, right?”

“There is really nothing either, I hear that Prime Minister Lou is preparing to get married, Aijia wishes to take a look which kind of woman can get Prime Minister Lou’s favor.”

It could not be this boring, right..... This Empress Dowager should be the West Empress Dowager, who was exactly Yan Ru Xuan's mother. Zhuo Qing thought that she called her to come to bully her, who knew that this person was so affable, she was not sure how to response!

"Ling-er just sit next to Aijia's side, ok, the people are all present, pass on the meal, ok." While speaking, she really arranged for her to sit on her left side, not too far away from the Empress.

Soon, the dishes were also served on the table, one group of women were saying and smiling, Zhuo Qing thought so powerless throughly. Looking at Qing Feng one glance, her face also had a look of impatience, Zhuo Qing lowly smiled, they seemed to really have connection at this point.

The culinary delicacies were exquisite, but Zhuo Qing's interest to eat came to an end, she did not know which person asked her this sentence at this moment: "Miss Qing, what do you do for your recreation during the day ah?"

Recreation? "Doing autopsy."

Zhuo Qing did not think too much when she answered the question without thinking it through, she was an workaholic in the past, a lot of her friends often ridiculed and said that her hobby was doing autopsy. She was also accustomed to self mockery, unfortunately, these group of women who were in front of her did not appreciate or understand her humor.

The inside of the main hall was in deathly stillness for a moment, almost all of the people took the same action by pushing the nearby meats farther away, especially the Empress who had experienced that disturbance during the palace feast. Her complexion was white and she felt really nauseous.

No need this much exaggeration, ok.....

In comparison, the Empress Dowager was clearly calmer, the hand that carried the dish only paused slightly, her face was smiling amiably like before and she asked: "Ling-er really stands out from the masses, no wonder that Prime Minister Lou favors you so much, who is Ling-er's master ah?"

"I do not know, I have amnesia." Zhuo Qing answered without thinking, this excuse was really good."

“Poor child, Aijia will let the Imperial physician to diagnose and treat you properly for another day.”

Zhuo Qing answered smilingly: “Thank you, the Empress Dowager.” Her heart was somewhat jittery, how long would this boring party to continue on!

“Imperial concubine Qing has not seen your older sister for quite a while, you surely miss her, right, what if Ling-er stay at the palace for a few days, both of the sisters can speak nicely.” Just right after Zhuo Qing shouted boring, the Empress Dowager’s one line sentence that appeared to be a consideration for her, let Zhuo Qing had goose bumps all over.

Zhuo Qing had still not opened her mouth to decline the offer, but Qing Feng was already quicker than her by a step, she answered: “Thank you for the Empress Dowager’s favor, the wedding ceremony is imminent, I am sure that elder sister still has so many matters to prepare. Moreover, it is always not good for the important minister’s wife to enter or exit the gate to the palace casually.”

“Hand over that many matters to the man to do will be alright, but what the Imperial concubine Qing has said is also reasonable. This way, ok, since Ling-er wants to marry Prime Minister Lou as a wife, she still needs to learn the court’s etiquette. Aijia will request the Imperial edict from the Emperor on your behalf to enter the Imperial palace to study the etiquette honorably. This way, you and your elder sister can be together nicely.”

“The Empress Dowager....”

“Alright, it is decided.” Qing Feng was still thinking on what to say, the Empress Dowager waved her hand and not allowed her to talk again.

Qing Feng apparently still wanted to talk, Zhuo Qing sent a meaningful glance towards her to prevent her to say anything again. Qing Feng would have to live for a long time in the palace after all, she would give herself a bigger trouble if she offended the Empress Dowager.

Why did the Empress Dowager want to make her to enter the Imperial palace at all costs? Zhuo Qing was thinking deeply on how she should break away from this kind of dangerous circumstances. At the same time, the sharp and high pitch of a palace eunuch arrived from a far and near: “The East Empress Dowager has arrived.”

Why was there another person who came?!

The palace eunuch's voice was just off, the grand clothing and ornaments, a married woman who was covered by a dark red clothing near the palace eunuch, she was escorted by many palace maids to enter the palace hall. Her face was taken good care of properly, tall figure, made her look younger than the West Empress Dowager, no more than 40 years old, magnificent golden hairpin, extravagant air that compelled people, in comparison, the West Empress Dowager seemed plain and simple, as well as amiable and approachable by a lot.

Her sudden arrival made a group of Imperial concubines were panicky, they paid respect hurriedly and said: "Pay respect to the Empress Dowager, we wish the Empress Dowager a long good fortune and peaceful."

"Stand up, ok." Not looking at the women who were kneeling, Lou Su Xin walked towards Yan Ru Xuan's side.

The West Empress Dowager got up to welcome her, said smilingly: "Please sit down quickly, elder sister, how do you have time to come to my place?"

Touching Yan Ru Xuan's hand, Lou Su Xin answered: "Xuan-er was sick for a long time and she did not seem to get better, Aijia just wanted to take a look at her, who knew that she was not at Qing Xuan palace hall. Aijia heard that younger sister arranged a banquet at the palace, Aijia also came over to join in the fun."

Yan Ru Xuan hurriedly answered: "Many thanks to Empress Dowager, Xuan-er is already a lot better." The low voice like a mosquito, people could see that she was also in fear towards this East Empress Dowager.

"That is good." Letting go of her hand, Lou Su Xin swept one glance at everybody, she seemed to ask consciously: "Continue whatever words that you were saying just now."

It was a pity that everybody lowered their heads, nobody dared to reply, Zhuo Qing was somewhat curious, everybody seemed to be afraid of her. Zhuo Qing was still observing secretly, her hand was gripped suddenly, she recovered and just saw the West Empress Dowager was patting her hand lightly and she said smilingly: "Xi Yan will get married quickly, but he really conceals his new wife so good. I especially request the person to enter the Imperial palace to take a look

today, she is sure enough a fragrant orchid and good hearted young lady. Looking at her make people like her, we were discussing to make the Emperor announce an Imperial decree for Ling-er to enter the palace to learn the royal family's etiquette a moment ago. She also can accompany Imperial concubine Qing, both of them have left their home for a long time, they surely have a lot of things to discuss."

The gaze merely were drifting away faintly, Zhuo Qing suspected that Lou Su Xin simply did not look at her appearance clearly. Carrying a somewhat arrogant personality, Lou Su Xin said with a clear voice: "Yes, this matter ah, Xi Yan only spoke with Aijia about this matter only several days earlier. His health is always not good since young, he will fall ill every spring and summer, Ling-er will use the needle to stop the inflammation to give him treatment when he falls ill. He has begged Aijia to let Wu momo to come out of the palace to give Ling-er the etiquette's instructions, Aijia can not refuse him and can only agree with him."

The West Empress Dowager very clearly knew about the situation and changed the subject, she said smilingly: "So actually it is like this, since it relates to Xi Yan's health, then there is nothing more to this matter, right. Older sister rarely comes over so let us dine together, ok."

"Fine." Both of the Empress Dowagers sat down the atmosphere could originally be regarded as joyous but it became oppressive immediately, but Zhuo Qing's mood was pretty good. This was also good, finally there was nobody who looked for any trouble for her, every woman in that group was somewhat thinking and looking, Zhuo Qing finished eating the cuisine comfortably.

She was brought out of Xi Xia palace by the East Empress Dowager, she thought that this East Empress Dowager would say something to her, who knew once they were out of Xi Xia palace, she only looked at her eyes one glance and said one sentence: "Xi Yan is waiting for you outside the palace", she meandered and left right away.....

She was Lou Xi Yan's paternal aunt, right.... The mind of the Lou's family was still not easy to guess!

Zhuo Qing followed the old momo to go out of the palace gate, as expected, she saw Lou Xi Yan's low profile chariot. He unexpectedly did not sit to wait for

her, rather he was standing at the outside of the chariot. Under the moonlight, his white cheongsam (long gown) looked like an elegant deity, it was perfect and made any person who was standing next to him feel ashamed of one own's inferiority.

Looking that Zhuo Qing had come out, Lou Xi Yan came up to greet her.

"Did you wait for a long time?" He still had that unhurried and contended manner, from his expression, one could not see if he had been waiting for ten minutes or ten hours.

Lou Xi Yan smiled mildly and answered: "Only for a moment."

Ok, he said only for a moment so it should be only for a moment. She could only see Lou Xi Yan and Mo Bai beside the chariot so Zhuo Qing surprisingly said: "Where is Qing Mo?" How come she did not see Gu Yun's shadow?

"She came to inform me that The Empress Dowager took you away and then she left afterwards." When she came, she was somewhat hasty and irritable, he thought that she would follow to come over. He did not expect that she would leave serenely after she finished speaking, she was really a strange woman.

On the contrary, Zhuo Qing was accustomed to Gu Yun's personality as she knew that he would be calm and she believed that he would be able to save her so she just left afterwards.

Stretching her waist, Zhuo Qing said: "It is late, let us go back, ok." It was a very busy day today so she was so exhausted.

Zhuo Qing prepared to get on the chariot, her wrist was suddenly grabbed by Lou Xi Yan, Zhuo Qing turned around because she did not understand and looked towards him. She could see that Lou Xi Yan was watching at her attentively and conscientiously, he asked: "Do you not want to ask me anything?"

Zhuo Qing pondered for a moment and answered: "What should I ask you?"

"You can be angry since I do not enter the palace to look for you and harm you by letting you stay at the palace this long."

Holding her hand tightly, Lou Xi Yan's serene eyes were watching at her attentively and deeply.

So, actually, as it turned out, he was talking about this, Lou Xi Yan's slightly nervous look pleased Zhuo Qing, she admitted that this vanity that she got was satisfying. But it was just that she did not have any desire to use this opportunity to take away the shameless lovable and extensive sympathy, slightly smiled, Zhuo Qing candidly spoke out with her own attitude: "The Empress Dowager only summoned me to enter the palace, what could she want to do to me, you were a state official so did not need to inconvenient yourselves to enter the harem. On the contrary, if you really wanted to come and get me, you would fall from the common people's perception. You still asked the East Empress Dowager to help me out of this trouble, this was already enough. I do not think that I will need to get angry for any reason, the most important thing is that I am not that weak. Even though one group of women who are like wolves and tigers and they harbor malicious intentions, unfortunately, I am not a small rabbit either, you can be at ease." (I think there's a rule that any official can not enter the harem where those evil women usually are so that's why LXY can't enter the harem and can only ask his paternal aunt to rescue ZQ).

Smiling eyes with high spirits, the faint smile on her water chestnut lip was pursing up, her face did not have any trace of cowardliness under the moonlight. That kind of self confidence was even so dazzling, maybe his anxiousness was unnecessary. Lightly holding up her scattered long hair on her back with his fingertips, Lou Xi Yan lowly smiled and said: "Yes, my Ling-er is a small fox."

My Ling-er? There was that faint pampering and spoiling tone again that made people to become intoxicated with that soft whisper, her jet black hair was twisted on his hand. Zhuo Qing felt that deep ambiguous feeling between the two people again, her heart could not be contained and palpitated violently. After that lack of soft kissing event last night, her heart seemed to change. But what did Lou Xi Yan think about this?

She wanted to continue with this kind of worry about personal gains and losses and let herself to be in this kind of passive circumstance all along? The answer was 'no'.

"I hear that you are preparing for a wedding?" She must make him confess first!

It seemed as if the satin hair felt the same as a good imagination, Lou Xi Yan

continued to fiddle with her hair and answered absentmindedly: "Yes."

Softly pulling her hair back, Zhuo Qing did not allow him to be distracted and continued to ask: "With who?"

Lou Xi Yan wished to continue saying something, the kind of cool and silky smooth touch that let people to linger on. Facing Zhuo Qing who was arguably pressing on her line of sight, Lou Xi Yan answered generously: "You."

With both hands on her chest, Zhuo Qing laughed: "Why is it that I, the person who is involved in this does not know it?"

His innocent face frowned, Lou Xi Yan answered: "You do not deny that you are my madam at the main hall, is this not a proof that you have promised to be my wife?"

He unexpectedly gave her this innocent look!! Zhuo Qing was happy and also angry, she lowly roared: "That was obviously just a plan of convenience!" The time when he said that she was his madam, she did not give her consent, ok!!

"The civil and military officials can not think like this, I can not think like this either."

Was he acting shamelessly like this?!! This could actually be called a marriage proposal? Zhuo Qing would simply not allow to force a smile!!

Zhuo Qing disapproval's face was hardly concealed, Lou Xi Yan's expression was gloomy, asked in a low voice: "Are you going to suffer if you marry me?"

Zhuo Qing shook her head and answered candidly: "No, your perfection makes people feel ashamed of their inferiority."

This was a strong point? His serene eyes were locking up tightly at her eyes, Lou Xi Yan asked: "But, you do not wish to marry me?"

Did I wish to marry him? Recalling the women guests at the banquets today, they were enchantingly beautiful, everyone of them possessed charm but they were all trapped inside the palace wall and they all belonged to one man. She did not know how they would think but she would absolutely not let this to happen to her. Facing to look at his eyes, Zhuo Qing answered: "How do I say this, my husband should respect me, both of us will protect and support each other, take

care of each other, trust in each other. I will not allow another third party to appear, of course, the fourth, fifth and sixth parties will not allow to appear even more! Do you think that you can achieve this on your own?"

"The matter that you care about is that I will take a concubine in the future, right?"

Zhuo Qing nodded candidly, this was the problem that could not be avoided in this era, she did not have any interest to share him with other people, even though his perfection made every woman emotionally affected.

Lou Xi Yan gently smiled, there was no need to be perplexed with regard to this problem, he calmly answered: "I, Lou Xi Yan will only have one woman in this one life, that is my wife."

Zhuo Qing's surprising mouth was slightly opened and she forgot to close it, according to his identity and status, he would absolutely not be required to try to please her and lie to her. Zhuo Qing had already guessed in the past that this kind of elegant and gentle man would stand out from the masses. But she had never thought that he was so unique, he would only have one woman throughout his life, not to mention this kind of commitment from one powerful Prime Minister from the imperial court and ordinary people in this ancient time, the man in the modern time would not dare to promise it easily like this, right? How could she not be amazed by this!!

Zhuo Qing's foolish appearance caused Lou Xi Yan to smile, he continued to fiddle with her hair one more time, Lou Xi Yan distorted his facial expression deliberately and said smilingly: "My small fox, do you really need to be this happy?"

Coughing lightly, Zhuo Qing finally closed her mouth, embarrassingly smiled and said: "I am sorry, I was just surrounded by a group of women who were very frightening and irritating just now, their facial expressions were somewhat dysfunctional, please understand this\_\_ shocking expression, thank you."

"This was not the exact answer that you wanted."

"Yes, it was." The answer was not the one that she would disdain on her own pretentious~.

“Then, what problem do you still have?”

“What other problem?” Zhuo Qing was somewhat at a loss...

“What problem do you still have to be my wife.” Lou Xi Yan asked very naturally, but Zhuo Qing wanted to curse at people. How could she answer to this person?! ‘I do not have any problem, please marry me, ok?!’ Let her be dead, ok, she could not say anything!

Zhuo Qing sighed: “I am under the impression that you are a very romantic person, it seems that I am somewhat mistaken now.” Even though she had never received any marriage proposal before but there was somebody who proposed marriage like this.....

“Romantic?” Lou Xi Yan raised his eyebrows lightly, his eyes flashed through a trace of doubt, Zhuo Qing cursed herself for being an idiot secretly, perhaps, he simply did not know what the meaning of being romantic was.

Just when Zhuo Qing was doing her own self criticism, her waist was tightened suddenly, Lou Xi Yan’s low voice was echoing in her ear: “I understand.”

What did he understand?! Zhuo Qing raised her head startingly, she was only able to see one bright dazzling man who was approaching towards her. Zhuo Qing retreated unconsciously but the hands that were holding her waist would not let her to run away, instead he tightened up both of his arms, Zhuo Qing only felt her lips were heating up....

“En...” All of her crying out in surprise was transformed into the other person’s warm breath. Zhuo Qing opened her round eyes, her brain was blank momentarily.... He.... kissed her..... He appeared to not let her continue to stare blankly, the warm breath had his smell, his kiss was gentle as before, but his arms were still holding onto her waist tightly and rubbing her back. Lou Xi Yan only released her lips until she thought that she could not breathe, his head was pressing against her forehead, his dull voice sounded even more fascinating: “Can you marry me like this?”

Zhuo Qing’s brain was still a little stupid for a short period of time, he should not be as gentle as jade, he should be polite, modest and courteous, and he should be tender hearted..... Who could tell her what was going on after all, this was the gate of the palace ah!

! How many Imperial bodyguards were still behind them, he unexpectedly kissed her like this?!!

Both people were still breathing and entangling with each other, his perfect and long single eyelids raised slightly, there was still actually a kind of strange sex appeal and charm. She was insane, she seemed unable to resist this kind of Lou Xi Yan. She had no choice but to say that her feeling was good with that warm kiss just now~~~

Sian's notes:

Oh my gosh, I'm just about to faint reading and translating this chapter. I swear that I'm going to smack ZQ if she still thinks that LXY is not serious about marrying her. Awwww... How sweet is LXY!!! Where can I find this kind of guy ahhhhhh??? I'm overloaded by LXY's sweetness in this chapter.

We all know that LXY is a foxy... How sweet of him calling ZQ a little foxy!!! My Ling-er is a little fox...

I totally forgot that they were still outside the palace gate when he kissed her... Such a foxy LXY...

# Record of Washed Grievances Chapter 67: Caught Up In The Deadlock

This chapter seemed to be a lot shorter compared to the previous chapters. Only over 2,400 words.

This chapter was edited by Din2.

The light ray in the summer time was dazzling directly from the half opened lattice window on the top of the bed curtain, the person who was on the bed grabbed the side of the silk quilt to cover her face, she intended to continue her good dream.

Bang, bang, bang..... (A loud banging sound)

An intense knock on the door sounded almost deafening, even if one had covered the ears with hands, one was impossible to ignore, moreover, the person who came, appeared to have perseverance as knocking on the door sound was heard repeatedly. Zhuo Qing cursed lowly and did not have any choice to wake up from her beautiful dream!

Did this person want to die, whoever came to disturb somebody's quiet dream first thing in the morning! Striving to get free of her misty eyes, Zhuo Qing was struggling to open the door.

Once the door was open, she only heard the young servant girl, 'Fei-er', who was assigned by Lou Xi Yan to attend to her, she was apologizing humbly and anxiously: "I am sorry, Madam, I am sorry. This young lady would not agree to wait for me to relay the news, she was just stubbornly rushing to come in on her own. I am sorry, Madam."

"Fine, fine." Zhuo Qing waved her hands to see clearly a grave expression of Gu Yun, Zhuo Qing thought that something surely happened. And she tried to find her urgently like this, it should be because of the murder case, right.

"Follow me." Grabbing her wrist, Gu Yun just grabbed her to go out essentially.

Zhuo Qing grabbed her collar and said urgently: “Hold on, hold on, Miss, in any case, you should let me put on a dress, ok!”

She was only wearing the night clothing now and even though it was not regarded as being exposed, but it was only a thin robe. When one entered a village, one had to follow the local customs, in any case, here was the ancient time, if she went out with this clothing attire, she would estimate that she would be crushed to death by eggs and tomatoes.

Releasing her hand, Gu Yun urgently said: “Hurry up.”

Gu Yun’s completion was extremely ugly, Zhuo Qing also felt that this matter was urgent, she grabbed a raw white silk cheong sam to put on conveniently. Then she used the water that was near the headboard to wash her face by patting her cheeks randomly, Fei-er stepped forward to help her to comb her hair. Zhuo Qing waved her hand and while she was braiding her long hair in passing, she asked: “What happened?”

Gu Yun with a heavy voice answered: “Li Zhi is dead.”

Dead?! Zhuo Qing stared blankly and asked: “When? What is the cause of death?”

“Yesterday evening. The initial determination is poisoning, Dan Yu Lan is in the middle of investigating the Imperial bodyguards who were guarding and the bailiffs who were delivering the food last night. He will let you do the autopsy and I want to listen to your opinion.” Unexpectedly, Li Zhi could be poisoned to death inside the Ministry of Justice’s prison, this murderer really had a great ability!

Her hair was already tied up properly, Zhuo Qing nodded and answered: “I am good, let us go, ok.” Both people walked out for a couple steps, Zhuo Qing stopped her step suddenly, she faced Fei-er who was standing at the doorway expressionlessly and said: “You need to go and tell Prime Minister Lou that I and Qing Mo are going to the Ministry of Justice for a while, I will return in the evening.” He had said that she could have the freedom to enter or exit the Prime Minister’s manor last night, he would not interfere and restrict her movement. This being the case, he could be so lenient towards her and had confidence in her, she should also somewhat be accountable.

“Yes.” Fei-er nodded.

Gu Yun’s elegant eyebrows raised lightly, when did Qing start to be obedient like this, she even provided her own whereabouts? She remembered that Qing was working and busy for several days and several nights and did not see anybody in those days. There was no news at all so the elite’s company that had been chasing after her for two years felt defeated and finally gave up on her. But she took the initiative to explain her whereabouts today, Lou Xi Yan was indeed remarkable ah~

If this was an ordinary time, she would surely ridicule her about this, unfortunately, today was not the time to do that. Pulling Zhuo Qing, both people left the Prime Minister’s manor hurriedly.

The main entrance of the Prime Minister’s manor was on the other side of the trail, two people were just about to go out, but because of the two energetic silhouettes who just left the manor, they stopped their footsteps.

“A woman who is showing her face in public all day long, can you not control her? This kind of woman does not deserve to be your wife.” A muffled voice that carried a deep displeasure, Lou Mu Hai’s dark complexion declared his full dissatisfaction.

Smiling and looking at that white silk back, even if she was in a simple ornament, she was already so beautiful. Not paying attention completely to the person next to him who was really angry, Lou Xi Yan faintly smiled and answered: “I think that she is very good like this .”

If Qing Ling was like the so called girl from a wealthy family, the golden branch, jade leaves type (blue blooded nobility) who was always cautious and careful with her words, cautious and solemn in all respects, he could not be certain that he would be like this now where he could not control himself to love her dearly.

Lou Xi Yan could hardly cover up his bias to help her, it made Lou Mu Hai to loath Zhuo Qing even more, angrily said: “If you really like her, just accept her as a concubine, that will be good. Princess Chao Yun is dignified and beautiful, she has already admired you for a long time, she is the best choice to be your wife. You as the Prime Minister, and one of the Lou clan’s family member, you should really consider how to balance this concern, not only to follow your own heart’s

desire!”

Lou Xi Yan groaned softly, he had already done a lot for the Lou’s family! His eyes flashed through a trace of deep resentfulness and disdained, Lou Xi Yan coldly answered: “At the second month of the three years’ prayer for blessing celebration, I intend to get married with Qing Ling after the celebration event. I will deliver the invitation card to the West General’s manor.”

“Lou Xi Yan! I am your dad!” Lou Mu Hai rebuked angrily, he did not pay attention completely to this disobedient son of his every time he returned, why could they, father and son not be able to be like the other father and son?!

Dad? Looking towards this relative who was glaring at him and then flaunting his own identity as a man, Lou Xi Yan was laughing. Why did he not see him as a dad when Xi Wu was born, when he was growing up and when mother was facing death? Raising his head with a trace of mocking smile, Lou Xi Yan with a cold voice, smilingly said: “I like this woman and just want to marry her as a wife, moreover, there will be only her. I am not the same like you, I, Lou Xi Yan do not need to lean on a woman to balance my official career.”

Finished speaking and also not caring on what the reaction from the person who was behind him, Lou Xi Yan turned around and went out of the Prime Minister’s manor. The complexion of the person who was left behind was ashen, the painful eyes of Lou Mu Hai were in a daze, watching at that meager rearview attentively, he was unable to move a single step for a very long time.

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The icehouse was still chilly, the several oil lamps were still shaking violently, this was the second time that Zhuo Qing was doing an autopsy at the Ministry of Justice.

There were ice and coffins everywhere, Gu Yun simply sat on the top of the coffin, she was listening to Zhuo Qing’s autopsy analysis: “According to the rigor mortis (the stiffness on the corpse), the livor mortis (the black bluish color on the corpse) appeared to be in the early phase on the corpse, the time of death of the deceased was between ten to twelve hours ago.”

“Eh, I am sorry, Madam Lou.” The young bailiff who was recording at the corner did not understand and he asked: “This, hour, what does it mean?!”

(Hahaha... I was thinking why ZQ was using between 10-12 hrs in the paragraph above. Remember that they don't use hour). He wanted to do this matter everyday, just to record the conclusion of the examination of the corpse by the coroner, it must be detailed and accurate, especially for this Madam Lou so he could hand it over to Dan Daren. Every words that she said about the autopsy time would be recording without missing any word.

How could she forget that there was another person, seeing Gu Yun so she recalled that they used to work at the same place previously, she was used to use hour and just blurting it out a moment ago. Thinking, Zhuo Qing answered: "You just write five to six shichen, ok." (1 shichen equals to 2 hours).

"Oh." The young bailiff lowered his head hurriedly and recorded it down.

"The deceased's complexion was greenish black, the eyeballs were protruded, mouth, nose, eyes had equal flowing foul blood. The skin was light bluish green color, fingernails were bluish dark, the abdomen was slightly extended."

The deceased had not been dissected for the advance examination, Zhuo Qing asked: "Have Dan Yu Lan finished examining the corpse?"

Shaking her head, Gu Yun answered: "I was just about to look for him at dawn today, he just sent somebody to ask me to come, then I finally discovered at the prison that Li Zhi was dead. Dan Yu Lan only looked at it in a simple way to say that he died of poisoning, then asked me to ask you to come over to do the autopsy. He would wait at the prison to interrogate the Imperial bodyguards who were guarding last night." Dan Yu Lan understood clearly that Qing's autopsy skill was better than his skill.

Picking up the already prepared tools on the side, Zhuo Qing cut open the abdominal cavity carefully to carry out the in depth dissection.

"The inside thoracic cavity of the deceased were smidgen by dark red liquid, each of the internal organs in the thoracic cavity was in normal position. The esophagus mucous membrane was slightly corroded, the stomach area had the remnant of the food, the mucous membrane stucked together, the stomach wall had three corrosion holes. The myocardium was stiffed, the inner membrane had a small amount blood, kidney was greenish black, the skin of the membrane shed."

The cause of death was very clear, Zhuo Qing took off her gloves and said: “The cause of death was due to food poisoning. But I did not have any toxicology report so I could not specify it for the time being, what kind of poison that he died from.”

Li Zhi was in the prison at that time, it was impossible to involve poison, even if he really carried it in order to want to kill himself, he could just take the poison directly and did not need to eat it with his food. There was no doubt that this case was a homicide case.

“Let us go.” Jumping off the coffin, Gu Yun took the lead to leave, Zhuo Qing was also following her to go out of the icehouse.

Gu Yun kept silent along the way, her complexion was heavy, Zhuo Qing asked: “What are you thinking?”

It was already mid summer, the sun was somewhat dazzling, Gu Yun stopped her footsteps near the big tree on the roadside, leaned against the tree trunk lazily, Gu Yun answered distressingly: “Our opponents are so much worst than we can imagine. The criminal who was inside the Ministry of Justice’s prison just died unexpectedly, moreover, how coincidental that he almost wanted to speak up about the inside story of the gold case! This person is indeed omniscient and omnipotent compare to us in the open, he is in the dark, it is not easy to want to bring him to come out.”

“You doubt Dan Yu Lan?” The person who knew that Li Zhi was almost falling apart and also who could kill a person inside the Ministry of Justice’s prison, the most possible person was Dan Yu Lan.

“He should not be that stupid to this degree.” Gu Yun shook her head and analyzed: “If he is the master of the matter behind all these, he can do this matter more beautifully, I guess it is because Dan Yu Lan who has interfered, the lead master is panic and does not hesitate to destroy all evidences at all costs. Yang Liu is dead now, Li Zhi is also dead, there are only two more Imperial bodyguards who were guarding the cave during that time. One is transferred to station in the East China Sea and one has already resigned the official position and nobody knows where he is now. The trails appear to have been broken, we can only wait Ye Mei and Ao Tian’s news tonight.”

She hoped that they would have good news, ok, but it was only a short three days, could they already find out about the gold case? The evidences that should be destroyed must have already been destroyed at an earlier time, right.

Extremely hot, using her hand to fan her face as wind, Zhuo Qing's eyes were bright suddenly, she smiled and said: "Actually, there is one person who knows this and has not died, is not that so?"

There was one more person?! Gu Yun made a tapping sound with her fingers, she smiled and said: "We are going to find her."

Two people's footsteps accelerated unconsciously, they wished that she would not suffer any mishap either.

# Record of Washed Grievances Chapter 68: The Current Murderer (Part 1)

I already updated the character lists... Over 3,380 words. Btw, there are tons of new names in this chapter. But I think most of the names won't come up again in the future chapter. I will update the character lists again sometimes in the future though.

This chapter was edited by Din2.

“Madam Yang.”

Arriving in front of the Yang family's courtyard, they just saw Yang Shi was stepping on the stool on the side of the small courtyard to arrange the flowers and plants. Her hands were all dirty, Yang Shi turned around to look one glance at them, she said with a soft voice: “Please come in, the courtyard door is not locked.”

Going through the door hurriedly and entering the inside of the courtyard, they discovered that the flowers and plants blossomed beautifully, they were different varieties of plants and flowers. Gu Yun was not interested with the flowers and plants but she was looking at them up and down customarily, Zhuo Qing walked to the side of the flowers and asked: “Did you plant all these flowers?”

Yang Shi used her hand to move the flower pot, smilingly said: “En. I am usually not busy and like to plant some flowers hastily.”

“You planted them really good.” Discovering several pots of lavender flowers on the top of the shelf that were very beautiful, each string of flower was very special, Zhuo Qing asked: “What kind of flowers are these?”

While she was speaking, Zhuo Qing's hand stroke the petals lightly.

“Be careful!” Yang Shi's speaking voice was still not off yet, Zhuo Qing already shouted lowly and she withdrew her hand hastily, her body retreated unconsciously but she was not careful and knocking against the side of the

flower shelf. Luckily, Yang Shi who was standing on the side to support her with her shoulder so she did not fall down.

Hearing her yelling, Gu Yun came over in a hurry and said urgently: “How are you?”

Shaking her head, Zhuo Qing answered: “I am ok.” Her fingers were only a little sting, she was only a little bit frightened a moment ago, nothing more. She was looking towards that delicate, colorful and lovely small flowers, Zhuo Qing asked curiously: “What kind of flowers are these, they unexpectedly have long thorns!”

Yang Shi walked down from the stool and explained: “These are my hometown kind of flowers, they are called aromatic herb, these flowers will be quite fragrant during night times. The fragrance can expel and exterminate mosquitos so I have planted some of these at home.”

“Where are you from Madam Yang?” Gu Yun only asked customarily, Yang Shi’s face flashed through a trace of faint distressed and answered: “I am from Huai Zhou Li county.”

Why was she sad when she spoke about her family’s hometown?

Lightly patting off the dirt on her hands, Yang Shi said in a soft voice: “Let us go inside to talk, ok, but it is very messy inside.”

“Good.” Zhuo Qing and Yang Shi walked towards the inside of the house.

Turning her head around to look one glance at the flower shelf on the side, Gu Yun’s eyes flashed through a trace of different color. But she only looked for one glance and then she entered the inside of the house along with them.

“Please drink tea.” Yang Shi placed the teas in front of them. Not waiting until she put the teacup properly, Gu Yun said with a heavy voice: “Li Zhi is dead.”

“What?!” Yang Shi’s hand that was still holding the teacup trembled, said urgently: “Who killed him?”

Gu Yun raised her eyebrows lightly, she said ‘who killed him?’, it seemed that she knew that he was killed ah!

Covering up her radiant eyes, Gu Yun answered: “The authorities found a murder weapon that was used to kill Yang Liu at his family’s home. Since Li Zhi

borrowed money from Yang Liu repeatedly and owed him a big amount of money, so we suspected that he wanted to escape due to the debts and killed Yang Liu. But he insisted that he did not kill anybody and still said that he had an evidence that the money was given to him voluntarily by Yang Liu . Originally, he would have been prepared to return home to get his so called evidence, but he was poisoned to death inside the prison!”

Yang Shi lowered her head one more time, Gu Yun could not see her expression clearly, so she could only continue saying: “We came this time, just wanted to ask you if Yang Liu had ever said to you if Li Zhi had any information on his hand that could be used against him. Maybe you had heard while they were discussing about some strange matter.”

Yang Shi shook her head lightly, but she still did not raise her head up.

Gu Yun faced Zhuo Qing to send a meaningful glance, Zhuo Qing understood clearly. Grasping Yang Shi’s hand lightly, Zhuo Qing said: “Madam Yang, please look at me.”

Yang Shi finally lifted her head up, Zhuo Qing soothingly said: “The murderer killed your husband, shifted the blame on Qian Jing and poisoned Li Zhi. You might just be the person whom he is targeting next, I hope that you can cooperate with us and bring the murderer to justice. Not only that this will console your husband’s soul and spirit, but we can also guarantee your safety.”

Yang Shi appeared somewhat lost in thought, she answered after a long time: “I also wanted to help you, but he had never spoken to me about these, they always sent me away whenever they were talking, I really did not know anything.”

She was lying again!

Gu Yun narrowed her eyes slightly and got up all of a sudden, she said: “Fine, ok, since it is like this, we will not disturb you.”

Both of them departed Yang Shi’s home again, but comparing at the time when they came, their eyes seemed to have a lot of traces of understanding. Looking at each other one glance, Gu Yun laughed and said: “We are going to Dan Yu Lan next.”

.....

Inside the prison, Qian Jing was still tilting his tall leg over to the other leg on that slab bed, but there was no dry grass inside his mouth, rather he was chewing a greasy chicken leg.

Running around for the whole day, Zhuo Qing's stomach was still empty up until now so when she looked at the relaxed and free eyes of the man in front of her, she could not help to lowly cursed and said: "We work ourselves to death, on the contrary, you are so free and unfettered ah."

Sitting up, Qian Jing laughed and said: "There is nothing that I can do about it, who makes me to become a criminal."

Her back was leaning slightly on the cool stone wall, Gu Yun looked one glance at the outside of the window through the black sky, she asked: "Have they not come yet?" It was already in the evening and she was afraid that they missed the good show from the other side.

Under Zhuo Qing's fierce staring, Qian Jing who was eating unhappily, shrugged his shoulder and said with an indifferent smile: "Not yet, they will naturally show up when the time comes." If it was not secretive in movements and traces, then it would not be those two people, he had never seen anyone who liked to be mysterious this much!!

Rolling her eyes over, Zhuo Qing cursed, if she had known earlier, she ought to eat until she was full before coming here again!

Gu Yun suddenly asked: "How was it? Did you find anything?"

Zhuo Qing turned around and only saw Dan Yu Lan who come in with an exhausting face. Shaking his head, Dan Yu Lan said with a sigh: "All of the prison's food were provided in unity, other people's food did not have any problem, except Li Zhi's food that had poison in it."

Zhuo Qing lightly raised her eyebrows, the prison's food was provided in unity? Then, what was that thing on Qian Jing's hand, the prison's food was already so good that each meal could have chicken leg?!

Finished eating the chicken and throwing the bone inside the paper pouch, Qian Jing grumbly said: "Do not look at me, I request the bailiff who is guarding

to buy this for me. I am not the one who says this, but the food that is provided in this prison cell can not really be consumed by human!” It still cost him three coins (money) for this errands fee, snatch his money!!

Dan Yu Lan did not pay attention to Qian Jing’s grumbling, he continued to say with a cold voice: “The bailiff who was in charge in distributing the prison food was already locked up. After investigating for one day, he insisted that he, himself was accused wrongly, did not admit to put poison in the food. There are four Imperial bodyguards who patrol at a fix time inside the prison and they also do not see any suspicious person.”

In other words, this day was in vain, he did not have any favorable impression towards the officials at the Ministry of Justice to begin with, Qian Jing immediately mocked and said: “In other words, Li Zhi’s top secret and bizarre death, I see that the Imperial prison at the Ministry of Justice is the most dangerous place!”

Dan Yu Lan investigated for a whole day and he did not even make a little progress. He listened to Qian Jing’s comment now and his complexion was black and somewhat scary. Zhuo Qing lightly coughed to think hard on what to say to bring relief to the atmosphere, just about to stand her body straightforwardly, one black and one red silhouettes already stood at the gate of the Imperial prison, it seemed that they had come for a long time.

Qian Jing and Gu Yun’s faces were serene as if they already detected their arrivals at an earlier time. Even Dan Yu Lan also kept his calm in the face of the unexpected, but Zhuo Qing was unable to endure and lowly shouted: “Please! Can you or can you not show up like normal people a little next time! You will frighten people to death!” She did not have any martial art so it would be impossible to remain calm in an event like this, ok?!

Unfortunately, Ye Mei and Ao Tian absolutely ignored her, they entered the inside of the prison and looked one glance at Dan Yu Lan but did not say anything.

Dan Yu Lan had little interaction with them directly but the names of these two people were absolutely well known in reputation. They practically brought to justice all of the criminals whom the Ministry of Justice and Ministry of War

could not arrest.

Gu Yun did not need to explain why Dan Yu Lan was there with them, she believed that they were already clear about it. The gold case had a wide implication, if there was no government personnel who took the lead, they would be unable to do many things.

Looking at the color of the sky (to indicate time), Gu Yun did not beat around the bushes, immediately said: "We are all here, I will say to make headway, ok. With regard to Yang Liu's case, we have already found the murder weapon, Qian Jing can basically clear from the murder crime. But because Li Zhi is dead, he has not admitted to the murder before his death so Qian Jing is still the criminal suspect at the moment, we need to lock him up temporarily. I suspect that the murderer who killed Yang Liu and Li Zhi, was also enormously affiliated with the gold case during that time but they were both murdered. My trail on this side has already been broken, do you find anything?"

They already helped Qian Jing to cleanse the criminal charge? Not bad, that they cooperated with them to investigate the case so it was not considered to be a wrong decision.

Ye Mei still did not make any brief remark and was only standing to the side, Ao Tian was explaining the three days' result expressionlessly: "During the gold case at that time, there were Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Appointments and Ministry of War, these three ministries gathered up and chased after the information together. There were five people who were included among these and had the opportunity to overtake the control of the case, respectively, the Ministry of Justice's government minister at that time, Fang You An, Ministry of Justice's assistant minister, Ping Ran, Ministry of Appointments' assistant minister, Tai Xin, Ministry of Appointments' middle rank minister, Huang Zhong Qu, Ministry of War's assistant minister, Wu Guo Cheng. Furthermore, there were three people whom Yang Liu had some contacts with, Fang You An, Ping Ran and Wu Guo Cheng. Qu Ze, Yang Liu and Li Zhi were all Ministry of War Wu Guo Cheng's subordinates. At that time, when Yang Liu returned to report, Wu Guo Cheng was not present, it was Ping Ran who deployed the troops to provide assistance. The outcome when they arrived at the rock cave was that they only saw a lot of wagon's marks on the ground, the gold were already disappeared."

Gu Yun asked: “Where are these three people now?” Were they also died, right? Since that day, she always had this feeling that there were a pair of gloomy and cold eyes staring at her. The cold eyes that were staring at them, as long as they made a little progress, he would undertake the task. This feeling was terrible!

“Because he did not do his best to investigate the case, Fang You An was transferred and assigned to be Governor of Tong Zhou’s province. Due to old age, he had to step down and retire to return home on the second year and he died of illness at the beginning of this year. Ping Ran was also demoted, he was transferred to Ministry of War’s middle rank minister, on account of his three years of good performance, he was promoted as the assistant minister this year. Since Supervisor Wu Guo Cheng’s subordinates did not do their best, he had to surrender his middle rank minister position, once he stumbled, he was unable to rise until now.”

It sounded like there was no room to be suspicious, Gu Yun continued to ask: “What are the condition of their financial affairs?”

The condition of the financial affairs? Except for Zhuo Qing, everybody else was staring blankly, Zhuo Qing lowly smiled: “The meaning of her words were their food and clothing expenses, real estate, bank deposits, whether or not they exceeded the proper range of their official salaries.”

Recovering, Ao Tian continued to answer: “After Fang You An’s death, the Fang family has suffered a reversal of fortune, their current life is a little bit better than the ordinary people. As far as Ping Ran, he is always an honest and faithful person, the condition of his home is not better than the ordinary official. Wu Guo Cheng drinks excessively all day long, he owes a lot of money for beer money.”

Qian Jing blew a whistle sound, smilingly said: “The meaning of this word is that they are even poorer lo~~.”

Gu Yun lightly sighed and said: “1 million taels of gold, they would need at least 7-8 chariots if they divided them to be put into the chariot. At the time this matter happened, there were already a group of people who pursued immediately, they unexpectedly did not discover the gold, this was also very

strange!” It had been three years since this matter happened, it could be that the mastermind of this case was not a stupid person, it was also possible that he could hide the wealth meticulously. But that large amount of gold, they needed to be circulated, right, it was impossible to disappear without any cause or reason!

Dan Yu Lan was silent from the beginning to end and just listening to their explanations and analysis. The gold case made a lot of noise during that time, he was always responsible to supervise the miscarriage of justice so he was not familiar with this matter. But this case from three years ago, Ao Tian was not the intermediary of the authorities, unexpectedly, he was able to use three days to really investigate this thoroughly and in detailed.

These people were standing inside the prison now, if they could enter and serve as an official, then it would be very good. But he also understood that trying to persuade them was not an easy matter.

Gu Yun suddenly asked: “Did you finally find the specific location for that rock cave?”

Ao Tian coldly nodded his head.

“It will be necessary for us to go to investigate the site of the rock cave tomorrow, maybe we can discover something new.” Looking towards the color of the sky from outside the window for the third time, Gu Yun craftily smiled: “We just have to see whether or not the fish has taken the bait now!”

What was the meaning to that? Ao Tian and the other people were at a loss this time, Qian Jing faintly thought that it would surely have a good show for him to see tonight, and he shouted: “I want to go also!”

Zhuo Qing casted sidelong glances at him, she answered in a deadly earnest: “Please do not forget that you are a criminal now!!”

After he ate his fill, he was thinking to watch a show? No way!

Gu Yun broke into laughter, Qian Jing indeed bumped into an iron panel, he did not know why Qing held the most grudge for.....

.....

Night time, a great number of dense vegetation was entirely silent, behind the simple and crude of the roof tile house, two bailiffs were guarding outside the door. In this broken roof tile house, Daren had sent someone to search all over once, but they could not find any valuable thing, they were unable to understand why they wanted to have this place guarded! The night vigil was the most boring matter, the two people were leaning lazily against the gate. One person was paying attention to the circumstance of the surroundings, while the other person was closing his eyes to rest.

One black shadow flashed past, vanished rapidly among the motley tree under the moonlight, the body shape rapidly made people to believe that they would merely see their own shadows vaguely.

The silvery light flashed through a night sky, it could only hear a depressed groan, the guarding bailiff's voice collapsed. The bailiff who was resting his eyes heard the strange sound, just barely opened his eyes so he could not see the shadow clearly before his eyes. He only felt an acute pain on his neck and he was already unconscious before his eyes.

The black clothing person agilely dragged the two unconscious men inside the courtyard, lightly closed the door of the house, leaped to enter the inside of the house rapidly and began to rummage through to look for something. He did not let off every corner of the place, the inside room was rummage through in a complete disorder, the black clothing person did not appear to find the thing that he was looking for, his expression was cold. The black clothing person unexpectedly picked up the iron hoe from the corner and started to dig the kitchen counter, the corners and other places.

Soon, the house was filled with flying dust.....

"He does not want to tear down the wall, right?!" A doubting and mocking sound of a female's voice echoed faintly.

Another clear and bright sound of a female's voice said smilingly: "It is very possible."

In the dark, there were sudden noises and somewhat relaxed laughs inside the uninhabited house, it was somewhat strange to listen to the sounds. The black shadow person was in great alarm and turned his body around suddenly,

the cold pupils slightly narrowed to watch attentively at the location of the voices. He threw aside the iron hoe that was on his hand and unsheathed the long sword from his waist, the silver white of cold ray of the moon was especially dazzling to the eyes.

# Record of Washed Grievances Chapter 69: The Current Murderer (Part 2)

Ha, another small plot is resolved in this chapter. Can anybody guess who the real murderer is? And then, the surprising relationship between the murderer with another person who is part of the bigger plot case (which is the missing gold case) and why that person concocts the whole things??? Insomnianoodles, I have to admit that your momo's investigation skill is so awesome!!! Over 2,660 words.

This chapter was edited by Din2.

Originally, the small house was still pitch dark but it was lighted up by the torches in all of the directions, everything could all be seen in the inside of the room (nothing was hidden because of the lights). The small house with the roof tiles all around was ambushed by more than a dozen bailiffs, a group of people were standing in the middle of the courtyard, including Dan Yu Lan and Gu Yun.

The black clothing person started to panic after he saw clearly that he was already surrounded in the danger zone, on the contrary, he was calm and his pair of cold eyes took precautions to stare at the delegation of people on the outside, the long sword was held on his hand firmly.

“Madam Yang, give up, ok, there is no way for you to go.” Gu Yun walked forwards slowly, Dan Yu Lan blocked her path, but Gu Yun waved her hand and went inside the house with an indifferent face.

Dan Yu Lan's complexion sank, he knew that she was a tremendous investigator to solve the case but if she was captured and took as a hostage by the criminal, that would be bad.

Still wanting to step forward to block her, his sleeve was suddenly pulled to stop him, Dan Yu Lan turned his head around and only saw Zhuo Qing was shaking her head towards him. She hinted to him that he needed to be quiet and did not need to be tensed, since she was also making him not to be worried,

maybe Qing Mo had her own plan, right. The Imperial archers were hidden all around and with a single instruction, the long arrows would immediately be sent inside to the room where the black clothing person was. As long as she was somewhat making an abnormal move, she would be shot like a hedgehog immediately.

Gu Yun entered the inside of the house unarmed and defenseless like this, calmly looked at the person inside the room, the black clothing person was staring now. Pulling down the face mask directly and efficiently a moment afterwards, a blazing lotus face shined upon, it was actually somewhat pale. The owner of this face was exactly that Madam Yang who professed to have many illnesses!

Her cold eyes were staring at Gu Yun, Yang Shi coldly asked: "How do you know that it is me?"

Having no other choice but to speak, Yang Shi's acting was already regarded as excellent, her normally gentle and soft's appearance during the day, who would have ever believed that after removing her female clothing, she unexpectedly had this pressing murderous spirit like this. Comparing to her impetuosity, Gu Yun seemed exceptionally relaxed, she smilingly said: "When we went to Yang family's home for the second time, I discovered that you were lying. Your expression showed me that you understood thoroughly why Yang Liu were able to have so much money, moreover, you also showed an extremely loathed expression. Originally, I thought that you committed adultery with Li Zhi, then conspired to kill Yang Liu and shifted the blame on Qian Jing, but I negated this guess after I had met Li Zhi."

The archers outside were at least more than a dozen people, not every one would shoot with great precision, right, if two people shot on her, she would completely be an arrow's hog. Silently cursing in her heart, Gu Yun used her body to move forwards the side a little and leaned against the side of the door near the narrow wall, then continued to say: "From all of the people who were at the scene on that day, if you eliminated Li Zhi and Qian Jing, the most likely person who committed the crime was you. But you were only one weak woman, how could you murder a person? Therefore, I was suspicious that you have an accomplice and this accomplice killed Yang Liu. You helped him to put away the

throwing knife, after that, you concealed it at Li Zhi's home. After he was arrested, you would worry if he had that so called evidence and could prove himself that he did not commit the murder, so you simply used poison to kill him."

Yang Shi's face flashed through a trace of extremely rapid disdain, Gu Yun affirmed her own guess again and said smilingly: "All of this predictions had also been thrown out again when I saw you this afternoon. Because I discovered that you did not need to have an accomplice, you really concealed the expert in your own body."

Yang Shi twisted her eyebrows and said: "How can you be sure?" She should not reveal any mistake today, right?!

Both hands on her chest, Gu Yun leisurely laughed and said: "Do you remember that beautiful flowers shelves at your home? The flower shelves have four layers, the first layer has eight flower pots, the second layer has seven flower pots, the third layer has six flower pots and the fourth layer has nine flower pots. All together have a total of thirty flower pots, when Qing Ling bumped into the flower, you supported her with your hand, afterwards, the two of you went to the inside of the room. I felt something wrong at that time, because after watching it again, the fourth layer was missing one flower pot and the second layer had one excess flower pot."

Listening to her words, Yang Shi's complexion changed, however, Dan Yu Lan who was outside the door did not understand clearly, he asked: "Can you explain anything about this?" This could only prove that Qing Mo's ability to remember was very good, that was all.

"When Qing Ling bumped into the flower shelves, the flower pot from the fourth layer that was located in the furthest side fell down, you were a person who extremely loved the flower so you reached out your hand to catch the flower pot. You were afraid that Qing Ling would knock down your other flower one more time, so you supported her with your other hand. But you were worried that I would see this act so you just continued to put the flower pot easily at the nearest area which was on the second layer afterwards, was it right?"

A clear and bright's voice of a woman was saying those line of sentences, Yang Shi only felt that her own hand was somewhat uncontrollable and slightly trembled. This person was very sharp, she remembered that Qing Mo did not practically look at her flowers shelves in the afternoon time, she unexpectedly could verify thoroughly and in detailed like this and spoke up about the quantity of the flower pots on every layer. She put the flower pot that she grabbed properly beforehand, she obviously saw that Qing Mo just turned around, she should not see her own movement but she unexpectedly said it without any slightest difference?!

Her breathing already started to be in chaos, Yang Shi breathed deeply, she pretended to be calmed and said: "Brilliant speculation, but everything was only your guess, what evidence did you have to prove it that I was the murderer? Even if I have martial art and appear at the home of Li Zhi in the middle of the night, can it prove that I really kill Yang Liu viciously?"

Earnestly nodding her head, Gu Yun answered: "With only these, we really can not prove that you are Yang Liu's murderer."

Yang Shi was just relaxing secretly, Gu Yun's quiet voice echoed again: "But can you explain why you are dressing in a night walk clothing in the depth of the night, your hand is holding a long sword, and appear in Li Zhi's home, you come here to look for something, right, Madam Yang? Not right ah, I should address you\_\_ Qu Xin."

Once 'Qu Xin', these two words came out, Yang Shi's eyes filled with amazement, the blood seemed to freeze up for a moment, after a while, she suddenly laughed heartily: "I thought that I had concealed myself properly, who would have thought that a person could already see it through."

Dan Yu Lan sighed secretly, as it turned out, Qing Mo asked him about Qu Ze's information was because of this investigation.

After speaking about this matter, the few people who were inside the courtyard could also guess about the whole story of the case, Ye Mei and Ao Tian looked one glance at each other. They both found appreciation in each other eyes towards that woman who was speaking frankly with assurance, her perception and speculation's abilities were strong, they had never seen a person

like her before.

Inside the house, Gu Yun discovered that Qu Xin's hand that was clenching at the sword, was no longer tight, so she advanced for one more step but she still did not dare to lower her guard and she continued to speak with her: "Actually after I know that you have martial art and guess that the murderer is you, but I can not find what motive you have to do this after all. If you were after Yang Liu's money, he was already dead, there was no need for you to do so many things like this to shift the blame to Li Zhi. Until I discover that Qu Ze unexpectedly has a younger sister. In addition, because he was judged to have secret ties with the thief who was planning for an upheaval and stole the money, so as his only sole relative and younger sister, you, Qu Xin had to be arrested as a criminal also."

Qu Xin apparently did not sense that Gu Yun was near, perhaps she sensed it but just did not want to injure her, sighing, Qu Xin nodded her head to admit and say: "I am Qu Xin."

She had not used this name for the last three years, since her older brother's death, she was always immersed to take revenge on his suffering. Looking towards the eyes of the woman who seemed able to see everything clearly, Qu Xin took a deep breath eventually, with a cold voice, she said: "What you said was right, I was the one who killed Yang Liu. From the beginning, I set Qian Jing up, during that time, if it was not because of him, my elder brother could run away so he should also receive the first imprisonment. Furthermore, in his capacity as a bounty hunter, he surely had many friends who could help him to wash clear the guilt, just as expected, he found you all. I had already anticipated this but you unexpectedly was so good like this, it actually went beyond my expectation."

As expected, it was like this, actually Gu Yun did not really have any evidence in her hand to prove that she murdered someone, but luckily, this psychological attack's trick was effective. Qu Xin was a wanted criminal, once her identity was really exposed, it was possible that she could plead guilty.

Gu Yun continued to entice her to say: "Also, there was one component that was beyond your anticipation, Li Zhi's death, you put the throwing knife at Li Zhi's home to shift the blame that he killed a person, was in order to make him

desperate and demanded to prove himself that he did not have any motive to kill anybody. You just wanted him to speak up about that year's gold case, this way, the truth of the matter was sure to be revealed and it could prove that your elder brother was innocent."

Qu Xin slowly nodded her head, with a bitter laugh, she said: "Yes, that was right. I did not anticipate that Li Zhi would be dead unexpectedly. There must be a mastermind behind the scene. You deliberately left behind Li Zhi's evidence to thread and pull me to take the bait, I did a lot of things like this in order to find who the mastermind behind the scene to take revenge on my elder brother. Therefore, even if I sensed that this was a trap in advance, I would also must jump in it." She already did not have any way out from early on, was it not so?

Gu Yun who was already walking to her side took advantage of the opportunity when she was absent minded, suddenly closing forward, she grabbed the sword.

Using her wrist, she captured her hand extremely quick and extremely fierce, Qu Xin was in pain, the long sword fell down. Qu Xin turned over to want to grab Gu Yun's throat, Gu Yun had already guarded it early. Using at close fitting tactic, with a low body, her right hand grabbed Qu Xin's belt, her shoulder stroke her abdomen with one hard stroke, Qu Xin was thrown outside the room.

Everything happened so sudden, apart from Zhuo Qing, nobody would ever think that this petite woman unexpectedly could throw out a person like this.....

Recovering, the bailiffs who were guarding aside hurriedly stepped forward and pressed Qu Xin on the ground firmly.

Beautiful face, because of not being resigned to and twisting, Gu Yun stood on her side on purpose, calmly said: "If you want to help Qu Ze to wash his injustice, you should not use a method like this, you are originally a victim, but you make yourselves a murderer now."

"The both of them need to die! Winner takes all, I lose, I do not have any complaint, it is just a pity that I can not find the secret person behind the scene! I will die with a remaining grievance!!"

Qu Xin used her strength to twist her body similar to the feeling of insufficient sorrow, a hooting yell was echoing in the night sky.

Her body was tied together with ropes, that meager silhouette that was escorted by a group of bailiffs, looked even weaker, waiting for her was the outcome of murdering people.

Recalling that woman's gentle eyes in front of the still flowers and plants, recounting the miserable past events, also the sinister from a moment ago, Zhuo Qing did not know if her psychological feeling was pedantic or obscure. Raising her head to look towards the night that was especially clear and bright's full moon, Zhuo Qing lowly sighed: "Behind every case, there is a story, a reason, some people are even so lamentable and pathetic. I think I still suit more doing autopsy to face the ice cold's corpses forever, and I only need to write down the real course of events of the death."

Walking ahead behind Zhuo Qing's back that was slightly stumped for words, Gu Yun stopped his footsteps, with a low voice, she answered: "If everyone believes that one is righteous, one can think according to one own's aspiration to give virtuous punishment to evil, this world will just lose its righteousness. Since the law has been drawn up, everybody should just comply with it. If you violate the law, you will receive punishment, no matter how many helplessness you have, how many bitterness."

The serene voice sounded like it was not impassioned, the fact was each line of the sentence was so firm, Zhuo Qing lightly smiled and shook her head, and answered: "You are forever this black and white clearly."

Gu Yun did not say anything, both of them were walking alongside under the moonlight night in this different era, with different thoughts.

# Record of Washed Grievances Chapter 70: Forced Marriage (Part 1)

Over 2,400 words.

This chapter was edited by Din2.

Zhuo Qing was walking alongside with Gu Yun on the quiet street, the fresh and cool night wind was blowing the people comfortably, the bright moonlight was enveloping them, the somewhat beautiful misty, after remaining silent for a very long time, Zhuo Qing suddenly said in a low voice: "Yun."

"En?" Gu Yun lightly hummed, waiting for her words to come.

Once again, there was silent for a moment, Zhuo Qing finally smiled and said softly: "I.... am about to get married with Lou Xi Yan."

"Really?" Gu Yun's pace was lagging, soon after she smilingly said: "Still less than three months, the speed of this flash married of yours is indeed quick enough."

Zhuo Qing lightly raised her eyebrows, she did not think either that it would be quick like this, perhaps it was because that person was Lou Xi Yan, right.

Zhuo Qing's eyes could not conceal the happiness and it made Gu Yun understood clearly that she was really falling in love. Lou Xi Yan was really good and really match with Qing, but there was one real problem. She did not want to splash cold water on Zhuo Qing, but Gu Yun had no choice but to ask: "Have you or have you not think that there is one problem? If I find the bagua board, we have the opportunity to go back, do you want to stay behind? During that time if you can still choose, then it will not be the worst, I am just afraid that it will resemble like last time. It is an unfathomable mystery to return back to your original life, do you think it clearly?"

Perhaps, Qing's work habit was the original cause that gave someone a somewhat cold feeling, actually, she was a person who attached importance to emotion and a soft hearted person. If she and Lou Xi Yan loved each other and

got married, and then suddenly separated all of a sudden, it might be very likely.....

Zhuo Qing leaned her head slightly to look towards Gu Yun's worry face, firmly answered: "Yun, there are so many uncertainties when it comes to future matters, because of these uncertainties, I do not want to lose the happiness that I can certainly have now."

Was it? Ok, then, her emotional quotient (EQ) was lower comparatively, any topic about emotion, Qing was braver and more mature than her by a lot. Since Qing already thought clearly, then the only thing that she could do was to give her blessings.

Lightly draping Zhuo Qing's shoulder, Gu Yun with a soft voice, smiled and said: "Have a happy wedding."

"Thank you." She was happy to be able to receive Yun's blessings. Yun was her best friend, she hoped that she could share this happiness with her.

Both of them were chatting and laughing while walking towards the direction of the Prime Minister's manor, but they saw a tall silhouette who was walking on the quiet and cold street. Gu Yun took precautions and watched attentively ahead, Zhuo Qing slightly narrowed her eyes to see, that person was..... "Mo Bai?" Why was he here?

Mo Bai walked up to her, he was still with that cold face, but his voice seemed somewhat urgent: "Master's illness recurs again."

Remembering when Lou Xi Yan's illness with hurried and brief breathings and pale face, Zhuo Qing's heart was panicky, said towards Gu Yun urgently: "I am going now."

"Very well."

Looking at Zhuo Qing's back that was scurrying, Gu Yun secretly sighed, she was afraid that Qing fell into a trap this time.....

Fortunately, the Prime Minister's manor was not too far, jogging all the way and a moment later, Zhuo Qing arrived at Lou Xi Yan's Lan Yue building. A group of people were already standing in front of the small courtyard, this time was probably because Lou Mu Hai was also there, Lou Xi Wu and Xue Xian Xin were

not quarreling again.

Rushing straightforwardly to Lan Yue's building, Zhuo Qing was the focus of everyone's gaze, Xue Xian Xin's wish to see Lou Mu Hai's eyes that flashed through a deep loathing, her hearts was secretly happy. Just about to go pass through her to enter the inside of the house at this time, Xue Xian Xin stretched out her hands to stop her way and said: "The Imperial physician is treating him inside, you will cause less trouble."

Thinking that Lou Xi Yan who was inside, Zhuo Qing did not pay attention to this woman who was stirring up trouble, she said with a cold voice: "Let go, I do not have time to listen to your nonsense now."

Her mouth was deflated, Xue Xian Xin's face showed a grievance and looked towards Lou Mu Hai and said: "Laoye, you look at her, she simply does not have any upbringing." She would absolutely not let this rude woman to be sitting in a wife position, otherwise where could she get any good day in the future!

Now was not the time to discuss about upbringing, Zhuo Qing brushed her hands and walked towards the inside room immediately. Xue Xian Xin still wanted to hoot, but Mo Bai's tall silhouette stood in front of her.

"Second Madam, she can treat Master's illness." An indifferent voice with blue eyes made Xue Xian Xin unawaresly afraid, and she withdrew to the side of Lou Mu Hai.

Lou Mu Hai was watching attentively at that slim back, what was so special about this woman after all, she could unexpectedly make Mo Bai to be extremely respectful towards her?!

Zhuo Qing lightly pushed the door to come in, after she entered the bedroom, she was afraid that she would disturb the Imperial physician who was giving the treatment so she only stood at the side of the screen to observe Lou Xi Yan's circumstances. He was half leaning on the bedside, his pair of eyes slightly narrowed, he only had a thin unlined garment as his clothing, his chest and back were already covered by sweats, his chest was moving up and downs indefinitely, his breathing was disorderly like before.

The Imperial physician was just about to tidy up the needles equipment, he should just finished treating his illness so Zhuo Qing walked slowly to advance,

lightly sat on the bedside but she did not dare to make any noise to disturb him.

Lou Xi Yan slowly opened his eyes up at this moment to see a heavy complexion on a woman who was on the bedside. Lou Xi Yan extended his hand to hold her hand together.

His palm was sweating, but the temperature of his fingertips were actually ice cold, both hands were tightly gripping the slender fingers on her palm, Zhuo Qing looked at the man's eyes that were tormented with serious illness, pale and haggard, deep in her heart, she felt a burst of unfamiliar pain.

"This small official (xia guan) will go to boil the medicine now, Prime Minister Lou, please speak less and rest as much as possible." The Imperial physician looked one glance at the two people who were holding hands tightly, and tactfully retreated out.

Zhuo Qing's worry and heartache could only be shown by holding his hand and put both of their hands on Lou Xi Yan's heart, lightly rubbing her hand, Lou Xi Yan breathed deeply and said with some difficulty: "I..... am fine."

The candlelight, his eyes were gentle and soft and resembled the water, but his face was still very pale, restraining her flustered eyes, she did not need Lou Xi Yan to comfort her at this time.

Still holding his hand firmly, Zhuo Qing's complexion already recovered as before, she softly called out: "Mo Bai."

After the light sound of a door, Mo Bai's tall silhouette came to the bedroom now.

"You need to cut down that several cotton trees that are in the courtyard." She should settle those cotton trees earlier but she was occupied to deal with the gold case recently. It was her carelessness, one flowering season of the cotton trees had passed so there was cotton wadding everywhere. This thin fiber was the easiest to trigger the asthma, she was careless.

Mo Bai did not move at all, he rather looked towards Lou Xi Yan who was half lying on the bed, Lou Xi Yan muttered to himself resolutely for a moment, and said with a low voice: "Those were bestowed by the West Empress Dowager."

So what if they were bestowed by the West Empress Dowager? Zhuo Qing got

angry and said in a fury: "Those cotton trees will kill your life."

Because of anger, Zhuo Qing's complexion was somewhat flushed, her beautiful eyes were glaring at him angrily. Her anger was spread out through out the eyes and made it difficult to cover up her flustered heart, from their palms, it came through a steady flow of warmth, she was anxious because of him.

Lou Xi Yan suddenly smiled, with a touch of his faint pampering tone of voice, he answered softly: "The mistress has already said it, then just cut them down, ok." It had been so many years, what should come, then let it come, ok. His health could not bear to have more and more outbreaks repeatedly like this, he did not have the heart either that his Ling-er had to feel apprehensive because of him, he had done more than enough concessions.

Lou Xi Yan already said like this, Mo Bai turned around to go out and prepare to cut down the trees, he just walked for several steps, Zhuo Qing called out again: "Hold on!"

Mo Bai did not understand and looked towards her, Lou Xi Yan was also gazing at her tenderly, Zhuo Qing was thinking and saying once again: "Do not cut them down, you go and try to find some people to remove the cotton from above the cotton trees. Then later on, just remove the cotton when they start to bloom every year, ok."

"Yes." Mo Bai hesitated for a moment, but he still accepted the order at last and left.

This so called bestowment, what was the significant with regards to her who came from the modern time, it was not important at all. But with regards to the Lou's family, it might be very important. The Imperial courts had numerous and complicated relationships, mutual internal strife with crafty plots and machinations, even though she did not understand it to much but also knew that any wrong step just might consign them to eternal damnation.

After withdrawing her anger, using the sleeve of her garment softly to wipe clean his forehead that had thin sweat, Zhuo Qing sighed and said in a low voice: "You must have your own intention to keep those flowers, but I can not watch them to threaten your life."

The heavens treated him good to send her to his side all along, took her busy

hand and grasped it in the hallow of his palm again, Lou Xi Yan said with a serious face: “The pray for blessings celebration will begin soon, I will be a little busy this time, wait until the busy time has passed, we will get married right away. I will give you a grand wedding ceremony.”

Zhuo Qing lowly smiled and shook her head, she answered: “I do not care about a grand wedding, it is good if you remember your own promise that you have already said to me.”

Their ten fingers were still intertwining stickily, Lou Xi Yan said in low voice: “I am willing to spend all of my life as a couple with you.”

The clear and raw voice as if it was a low song from a zither, the promise that she heard was the most beautiful pledge, the phoenix’s eyes with excessive deep emotion could take any woman to drown. Her heart was hysterically throbbing once again, his slightly moist lips and right in front of her eyes, repeated breathing, it attracted Zhuo Qing to approach.

“Even though..... I ##, but I ###, ###..... romantic.” The beauty presented a kiss, Lou Xi Yan reaped the benefits happily, but she merely approached, the fresh and clean’s fragrance on her body made him to breathe disorderly right away, more and more turbid, especially, since her warm and soft body was relying on his embrace. His mind continuously flashed through the hot spring pond event, it made someone’s blood vessel to spurt to see the graceful body shape..... This would make him choke again now.....

“You.....” Looking at him ###, ###, ###.

Her face was flushing, she could not help to curse in her heart, the male beauty was indeed a disaster! Hearing clearly Lou Xi Yan’s intermittent words, Zhuo Qing suddenly did not know whether to laugh or cry..... He would not think that this so called romantic meaning was just kissing, right!! Heaven ah..... How would she explain this beautiful misunderstanding..... Boo hoo, boo hoo (she was crying in her heart)..... Just when Zhuo Qing was embarrassed incessantly, Jing Sa’s distinctive gloomy voice echoed outside of the door: “Master.”

Lou Xi Yan did not wish to release his grasp of Zhuo Qing’s hand, this was the first time that he loathed Jing Sa’s insensitivity, with waning enthusiasm, he answered: “Come in, ok.”

Without entering the bedroom and stopping his footsteps at the outside of the screen, Jing Sa answered: “The West Empress Dowager’s Imperial decree, please make a trip to enter the Imperial palace.”

“What happened at the Imperial palace?” Lou Xi Yan’s double edged eyebrows lightly twisted, it was already haishi now (9-11 pm), why did the Empress Dowager still wanted to summon him with an Imperial decree. Moreover, he just got an outbreak a moment ago, if it was not an important matter, Jing Sa would not come in to bother him.

Separating by the screen, Jing Sa looked one glance at Zhuo Qing who was sitting on the bedside with their palms intertwining, after a moment, he answered with some doubts: “Princess Chao Yun tried to hang and kill herself last night.....”

“What?!”

Sian’s notes:

Arggh... That Princess Chao Yun was finally making a move, eh?!!! Trying to guilt trip LXY.

After a few chapters without LXY, he finally came back in this chapter. Unfortunately, another asthma attack for him ( me rolling my eyes on Qian Lu, the author). But there were more sweet moments between our OTP.

# Record of Washed Grievances Chapter 71: Forced Marriage (Part 2)

Finally!!! ZQ's confession... Not to LXY but it works for me. She finally realizes her feeling... i just love that she's not afraid of LXY's dad & stands up for herself. Over 2,400 words.

This chapter was edited by Din2.

"What?" It was not Lou Xi Yan's lowly called out, but it was rather Zhuo Qing who was sitting on the side. She remembered that Princess whom she had met for a glimpse, it would not make people to forget this beautiful girl, dignified, gentle and quiet, why did she want to kill herself?

Looking at Lou Xi Yan who was by her side, his face did not show any surprising look, he asked in a low voice: "Were Princess alright?"

"The palace maid discovered her early so she should be alright. The Imperial physician is still diagnosing her."

Fortunately, she was alright, Zhuo Qing could feel that Lou Xi Yan took one relax tone, he knew the reason why the Princess tried to kill herself? Watching attentively at him with her eyes, Zhuo Qing asked: "Why did she try to kill herself?"

Lou Xi Yan lightly frowned but did not know how to answer. He did not need to guess to know why Xuan-er would try to kill herself. It was because of him, but he did not want Ling-er to misunderstand.

Thinking of that day at the Imperial palace's main hall, that girl looked at her with her watery eyes, additionally, his expression at this moment, Zhuo Qing guessed and said: "Because you want to get married and the bride is not her?"

Lou Xi Yan still did not answer, only faintly said towards Jing Sa: "Prepare the chariot."

"Yes." Jing Sa bowed and went out.

Lou Xi Yan forced his body to stand up, merely this kind of simple movement, he was already out of breath. Zhuo Qing brought a clean clothing and handed it over to him, anxiously said: "You still want to go like this?" He even had a problem walking, how could he enter the Imperial palace like this, or that Princess was really important?

With Zhuo Qing's assistance, Lou Xi Yan changed into a fresh greenish blue scholar garment. Seeing her uncomfortable heart, Lou Xi Yan was caressing her cheek, smilingly said: "An Imperial decree can not be disobeyed. I am alright, you do not need to worry."

Forget about it, there was no need to bother with this desperate young girl! Looking at him gasping at the beginning when she was putting on his clothing, Zhuo Qing said: "How about if I accompany you, ok, I will wait inside the chariot to wait for you."

Lou Xi Yan shook his head and answered: "You are already tired for the whole day today, rest properly at home and wait until I return. Ok?" He still could not be certain what the Empress Dowager want to do this time. He was afraid that it would harm her in this risky condition if he brought her along with him.

Lou Xi Yan's gentle tone, his opinion was already conveyed very clearly, Zhuo Qing did not insist on it either: "Fine, you take care on your own."

"Wait for me." A light kiss landed on her eyebrow, Lou Xi Yan lightly scuffed on her nose, Zhuo Qing lightly startled for a moment, Lou Xi Yan already walked out of the inside of the room slowly when she recovered.

Zhuo Qing hurriedly followed him to walk out, Lou Xi Yan wore a neat clothing, pale complexion, it was difficult to cover up his exhaustion and went out of Lan Yue building. Lou Mu Hai was looking coldly one glance at Zhuo Qing who was on his back, he asked towards him: "Where do you want to go?"

Zhuo Qing's face was gloomy, what was he staring at her for, it was not her who made Xi Yan to go out either! Not reasonable!

Lou Xi Yan did not answer Lou Mu Hai promptly, he rather turned around to Zhuo Qing's side and said: "It is already late, you go to sleep first, ok."

Lou Mu Hai's gaze was colder and colder when he was glaring at her, Zhuo

Qing nodded towards Lou Xi Yan peacefully and contentedly, she was not afraid of having eyes contests with anybody!

Walking to Lou Mu Hai's side, Lou Xi Yan faintly answered with a sentence: "The Imperial decree from the Empress Dowager, I want to enter the Imperial palace."

Xue Xian Xin did not understand and lowly called out: "Entering the Imperial palace now? This late, what has happened? What is going on calling somebody to enter the Imperial palace in the middle of the night? How is this not making people curious?"

Lou Xi Yan did not explain, only lightly nodded towards Lou Mu Hai and walked out of the courtyard gate afterwards.

Lou Xi Yan already left, Zhuo Qing also turned around to face the nine zigzag bridge to prepare to return to Zhai Xing pavilion and wait the news from Lou Xi Yan, her feet still had not moved one step, Lou Mu Hai's like heavy and deep thunder voice echoed from behind her: "You, come and follow me to the study room."

Whom did he call out?

Zhuo Qing turned around blankly, Lou Mu Hai was already walking over to the direction of the study room. Xue Xian Xin's face tilted to take a joy in calamity and delight in disaster and looked at her. Lou Xi Wu walked to her side, lightly patted her shoulder, her face was full of sympathy and she whispered to her ear: "Do not be afraid, his voice is a little loud, nothing more. You have my elder brother's support, you will be alright."

Zhuo Qing lightly knitted her eyebrows, she was not afraid at all but instead she had an interesting face, very good. Lou Xi Yan had not returned, she estimated that she would not need to sleep either, then would just go with him, ok.

Zhuo Qing unhurriedly went to the study room, Lou Mu Hai already waited for a moment, his face undoubtedly displayed his impatience.

Once she stepped into the study room, Lou Mu Hai did not give any round about either, directly asked: "Did you know the reason I asked you to come

here?”

Zhuo Qing shrugged her shoulder and answered: “I do not know.” She was not a round worm in his abdomen. (It’s a saying that she’s not him so how can she knows what he thinks.

With regard to taking a concubine in this family matter, originally, a woman should be talking about this issue with her. Xi Yan’s mother was already passed away, Xian Xin also had that kind of temperament, although it was somewhat awkward, Lou Mu Hai said with a cold voice: “Since the Emperor has already bestowed you to Xi Yan, you are already Xi Yan’s woman, you will certainly have a position in this home. But the one most important thing is that you need to know your own position clearly. Do you understand?”

A good position ~~ Zhuo Qing answered: “Your meaning is that I should not prevent Xi Yan to take a concubine?”

“Xi Yan’s official wife should have been well matched in terms of social status as him, a woman who can help and benefit him towards his official career.”

As it turned out, she overestimated her own capabilities, the meaning of this person’s words was not that she would allow or not allow to take a concubine, it was actually that she did not have any qualification to be his official wife! Zhuo Qing coldly snorted: “So?”

He already spoke clearly like this, as far as Zhuo Qing was concerned, he did not have any high regard, Lou Mu Hai was more and more annoyed.

He did not say it? Well then, let her say it, Zhuo Qing’s hands were on her chest, coldly said: “So I should advice Xi Yan to take a wife who can give him the benefits in his official career to show my generosity and ladylike?”

Not knowing whether or not that he was accustomed to this type of arrogance or simply not paying attention to how Zhuo Qing was thinking, after he heard her words, Lou Mu Hai unexpectedly said: “It is good that you understand, Xi Yan likes you and you are clear about this, even if he takes an official wife, you do not need to worry that you will lose his favor either. With regards to Xi Yan and the Lou family’s concern, the Prime Minister’s manor needs a prominent social status for his official wife.”

She still believed that this father was simply thinking that she was not fit to be his son's wife, as it turned out, she was not fit to be the Lou family's Madam. Contrary to being angry, she was laughing, Zhuo Qing disdainfully answered: "If a man wants to rely on a political marriage to achieve his own's higher goal, I do not want him even if you give me this kind of man. I do not know what you think of Lou Xi Yan in your heart, maybe the both of you merely fill your eyes with the benefits to expand your power like a piece of chess. However, he is the one person, the one man whom I love in my heart."

As it turned out, speaking about love did not seem to be that difficult, Zhuo Qing did not expect that she would blurt it out herself, her mood was extremely good. Voluntarily ignoring Lou Mu Hai whose face was already like lightening flashes with thunder rolls (extremely angry), Zhuo Qing with a clear voice smiled and said: "I think you are probably misunderstood, the character that I lack the most is to be a virtuous and warm person. My man can only have me as his wife. Do not even say about taking a concubine, even an occasional cheating is entirely not allowed!"

"Impudent! A jealous woman does not fit to be a wife, if you obstinately persist in going about things the wrong way, I can only drive you away from the Prime Minister's manor ultimately." This woman was really pampered by Xi Yan until she was undisciplined and out of control!

"You do not need to worry about this for me. If Lou Xi Yan has a second woman, you do not need to drive me out but I will go on my own." If she was saying things again, this person would probably have a stroke, right. Shrugging her shoulder, Zhuo Qing smilingly said: "I think we do not need to continue speaking, the time is already late, you should rest early!" She should still have an upbringing and manners towards him.

Finished speaking, Zhuo Qing turned around and left the study room. "You will do harm to him."

There was appear to be a warning sigh that was muttered to himself irresolutely that made Zhuo Qing's back was stiffed, but it was only for a very short time. Without turning her head around, Zhuo Qing took a step to leave steadily as before.

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It was already zhishi (between 11 pm-1 am), the inside and outside of Xia palace was still brightly lighted up, the palace eunuchs and palace maids were kneeling on the ground, but the quietness made people to suffocate. The heavy atmosphere did not need to enter the inside, as it was already imprinted deeply.

Lou Xi Yan just entered the inside of the palace hall, just saw the West Empress Dowager, Yang Zhi Lan and the Emperor sat on the first seat at the palace hall. Yan Hong Tian's complexion was malicious so it was difficult to recognize if he was happy or angry, the Empress had an anxious face and kept looking at the outside of the palace hall continuously. Catching the sight of Lou Xi Yan's entering, Yang Zhi Lan was secretly relaxed.

Walking to the middle of the palace hall, Lou Xi Yan kneeled down on his one knee to pay respect: "Chen Lou Xi Yan pays respect to the Emperor, long live, long live, long, long live. May the Empress Dowager has good fortune and peaceful."

"You may rise." Seeing clearly that Lou Xi Yan did not have any color on his complexion (very pale), Yan Hong Tian frowned and said: "Bestow to be seated. How is it that you complexion looks so bad?"

Secretly recuperating from his breathing, Lou Xi Yan faintly answered: "Many thanks for the Emperor's concern, Chen is alright. Not knowing what matter actually happens that Chen has to enter the Imperial palace very late at night?"

Yan Hong Tian had not spoken yet, the West Empress Dowager lowly sighed and said: "Xi Yan ah, calling you to come this late, Aijia is also forced to do it and without any choice."

"Xuan-er, this child is just stubborn! She only likes you from childhood, you know about this too, you want to get married now, how can she accept it?"

"The Empress Dowager's words were too serious." She already invited the Emperor to come, he was afraid that she would not give up if she did not reach her purpose tonight.

Lou Xi Yan asked: "Is the Princess's health good?" He could say that he watched Yan Ru Xuan to grow up, if she really had any mishap, he could not bear it either.

He could ask like this, in other words, he had known Xuan-er's matter about trying to kill herself. The West Empress Dowager had a worry appearance on her face, originally she still took good care of her proper face, but now, her appearance was completely tired. No longer trying to avoid the topic, Yang Zhi Lan said: "She just woke up at last, Aijia is worry, that child is still taking things too hard to do foolish thing. Aijia has requested you to come today, just want to discuss this with you, Xuan-er's feeling towards you is very deeply rooted, how do you see it?"

Xuan-er was her only daughter, she would definitely help her to get it as long as she wanted anything!

Lou Xi Yan kept silent, Yan Hong Tian did not speak harshly either, the inside of the main hall was quiet for a very long time, the West Empress Dowager finally spoke out her purpose tonight: "Aijia will just betroth her to you today, good or not?"

## Record of Washed Grievances Chapter 72: Forced Marriage (Part 3)

Posting this a little bit earlier as I'm going to be in a meeting. Another long chapter, over 4,250 words. But there are a lot of sweet moments from the middle chapter to the end.

This chapter was edited by Din2.

Aijia would just betroth her to you today, good or not?

Although she used this 'asking' sentence, unfortunately, the West Empress Dowager did not actually inquire his opinion, bestowing a marriage was the primary purpose of summoning him to enter the Imperial palace tonight, right.

Already expecting this earlier, Lou Xi Yan was not surprise at all, only got up from his seat and walked to the middle of the palace hall, cupped his one fist on the other hand and slightly bowed his body, he answered faintly: "Thank you for the Empress' good intention, Chen already has a wife, does not dare to cause the Princess to feel wronged."

The Empress Dowager had already foreseen this early that he would speak like this, she raised her head and with a devoted face, she smiled and soothingly said: "You can be at ease, Aijia is not an unreasonable person. Qing Ling, that child, Aijia also likes her very much, the pray for blessings celebration event is almost here, after the event celebration, you and Xuan-er's wedding first. As soon as you have completed the wedding, you can bring Qing Ling into the manor, although it feels somewhat wronged to her, but you also know Xuan-er's personal character, she will certainly not make things difficult for her." According to Lou Xi Yan's temper, he should not take another concubine, one wife and one concubine, Xuan-er would also unlikely to feel very wronged.

"Answering the Empress Dowager, Chen's marriage affair with Qing Ling has already been reported long time ago in the public, family and older generations. Chen has also informed a group of officials at the Imperial palace banquet, she is

already Chen's wife, how can Chen take other wife?" He would surely persevere in regard to this matter to the end.

The West Empress Dowager just stared blankly, answered ridiculously: "You have not married officially, it cannot be counted as being a husband and wife, how is it taking another wife again? You are the Prime Minister of one country, how can you decide a matter of taking a wife carelessly like this?! It is not that Qing Ling is bad, but she is a woman from a foreign country, how can she deserve to be your official wife?"

Standing for a long time, Lou Xi Yan's breathing was already somewhat unstable, serene for a long time, Lou Xi Yan with a clear voice said again: "These words that the Empress has said are wrong, the Emperor has bestowed her to this small official, she is no longer Hao Yue's woman, she is rather Chen's woman. Chen and her are definitely a husband and wife, besides Chen has promised to marry her as an official wife. Breaking a promise of marriage now, it is really going against the righteousness, if Chen is really this kind of a person who changes at once on seeing something differently, the one who reaps as the consequences of one's words, the Empress will not feel relieved handing over the Princess to Chen, right."

In the eyes of everybody, Lou Xi Yan and Xuan-er were already a couple, this matter was known to everyone early, the Emperor bestowed that woman to him, it was not to be censured too strictly, this kind of thing was in their position as men after all. Who did not have three wives and four concubines, she did not feel like controlling this matter, but she had not anticipated this that Lou Xi Yan who was always gentle would unexpectedly look for an excuse to refute this marriage! It was not surprising that Xuan-er could not stand it and committed suicide!

It looked as if Lou Xi Yan was crazy about Qing Ling and lost his soul, not letting him to take her as a wife was impossible. She did not want to have an acrimonious falling out with him either at the moment, the West Empress Dowager's complexion changed slightly and pushed down the anger in her heart, she said with a cold voice: "Very well, so Prime Minister Lou persists in trust and justice, Aijia also admires your behavior completely and will not make things difficult for you. Xuan-er and she can enter the door together, her status will be

the same as a wife, there is no difference, this way should not cast her aside and also does not go against Prime Minister Lou's promise, right?"

One woman's status from a small country could not be distinguished with the Princess, she was already considered taking the most setback, if Lou Xi Yan still failed to appreciate her kindness, then just could not blame her!

From 'Xi Yan' to 'you', then to 'Prime Minister Lou', the West Empress Dowager's patience was nearly exhausted, and Lou Xi Yan's chest was also stuffy and it became more and more obvious. After breathing secretly for a long time, Lou Xi Yan was still speechless.

"Prime Minister Lou does not say anything, Aijia will just take it as you have agreed?" Knowing perfectly well that Lou Xi Yan wanted to refute, the West Empress Dowager was still obstinately clinging to her curse. She already lost one son, she could not lose another daughter, absolutely could not!

Slightly gasping for breath, Lou Xi Yan could feel the pain on his chest, then without any mood to withdraw from this problem, Lou Xi Yan said bluntly: "Between Chen and the Princess are only a ruler and her minister and it lacks the male and female's affections. It is very likely that Chen can not take care of the Princess properly and interfere with the Princess' lifelong happiness, Chen really does not dare to support the Empress Dowager's good intention."

"You~~." He unexpectedly declined this marriage openly, the West Empress Dowager's teeth were nibbling, just about to get angry, the always grim but not speaking's Yan Hong Tian suddenly started talking: "Xuan-er's health has not yet recovered, we will discuss the matter of the wedding later on again, it is late, you should return to rest first, ok."

Xi Yan was not in a very good condition, he should usually respond with skill and ease (not being so blunt) with this kind of matter, but he seemed somewhat impetuous now. There was thin sweat on his forehead, excessive muffled voice that revealed that he was enduring pain, his illness would not just recur again, right!

The Emperor was sure enough still standing by Lou Xi Yan's side, but Xuan-er was his younger sister! Seeing with her eyes that Lou Xi Yan turned around to walk out, the West Empress Dowager's expression was dark, she suddenly

struggled to talk: “The Emperor, there are many people who talk various things inside the Imperial palace, Aijia does not know what is being said about the matter this time, Xuan-er, this child is also too sensitive. The inside Imperial palace is actually a harmful place for Xuan-er to recuperate, according to what Aijia can see, the Prime Minister’s manor is a quiet and secluded place, it is very fit to recuperate, it will be better to let Xuan-er to recuperate at the Prime Minister’s manor, right.”

Stopped listening, Lou Xi Yan’s feet were motionless momentarily, he said urgently: “Chen thinks that it is inappropriate.”

The West Empress Dowager who always had a good natured face, her face became cold immediately, lightly humphed and said: “Why, Xuan-er is a country’s Princess, she can not recuperate or fit in your manor, right!”

“Chen does not dare. But it will be harmful to the Princess’ reputation like this, the Lou’s family has another courtyard to stay, it is very fit to recuperate there, the Princess can proceed forwards.” If he let the Princess to recuperate at the manor, he would not be able to explain to Ling-er. He was afraid that the West Empress Dowager would contradict at a future time that the Princess was staying at the Prime Minister’s manor for a long time, it would damage his reputation and compel him to take responsibility, then he would not know how to evade at that time!!

The more he did not let Xuan-er to go, the more she wanted to let her to go, it was best when the rice was cooked (what’s done is done)!! The West Empress Dowager sneered in her heart, but on the contrary, her face showed a cold appearance just now, lowly smiled and said: “Xi Yan does not need to worry about this, the Prime Minister’s manor does not have only one person who lives there. Xi Wu and Xuan-er are the same ages, letting Xuan-er to have a partner is also good, and then, you say that you do not have any male and female’s affections with the Princess, then you can take advantage in nurturing it during these days nicely. If it still can not make your heart to cherish each other, Aijia will not force you anymore.”

Finished speaking, the West Empress Dowager, intentionally looked at the side towards Yan Hong Tian, she asked: “What does the Emperor think?”

Yan Hong Tian pondered for a moment, he was finally disregarded Lou Xi Yan's chilly cold rays from his eyes, he said with a heavy voice: "Granted."

Xi Yan was his best friend, his best official, and also his best opponent. He could not have forgotten, when Xi Yan's mother passed away during childhood, Xi Yan had already said to him that he promised his mother, he would love and get married with only one woman, he would only have one wife in all of his life. He always thought that Xi Yan said it casually, but today, it seemed that he was not. He still wanted to see how long he could persist in this matter now!

Xuan-er was his dear younger sister after all, he also felt distressed when he was looking at her pale face and lying on the bed a moment ago. He still hoped that Xi Yan could like Xuan-er and became his younger sister's husband, but according to his understanding towards Xi Yan, he was afraid that it would be very difficult.

The West Empress Dowager's mind was happy, she said: "At dawn tomorrow, Aijia will personally send the Princess to enter the Prime Minister's manor, it is already late now, Prime Minister Lou can go back to rest, ok." She just could not believe that her daughter could not compare to that woman whose face was damaged, even if she could not really compare with her, she would also let her to have her wish fulfilled.

"Chen asks to be excused." Everything was already a foregone conclusion, Lou Xi Yan, himself knew that he could not oppose this. Leaving behind his cold words, Lou Xi Yan's meager back disappeared rapidly before their eyes.

Yan Hong Tian's eyes flashed thorough a trace of light, Xi Yan was angry..... Interesting.

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The moonlight tonight did not seem too bright, the lake appeared to form a dense mass, did not have the azure and pure daytime yet, this kind of vast on the contrary, made people to look somewhat afraid. The water in front of Lan Yue building already carried a dense of lotus leaves, the lotus was only a very small flower bud. One could not see their dainty appearances during the night, just listening to the wind that passed through the lotus leaves with a rustling sound.

The night wind was stroking lightly, the lotus leaves were charming and gentle,

Zhuo Qing leaned forward on the shine table. There was slightly sweet smelling grass, her mind was still very clear headed, but her eyes did not want to open up.

That Lou Mu Hai's sentence was echoing in her ear continuously— 'you will cause trouble to him.'

Perhaps, she would really cause trouble to him, right. But if he wanted to ask her whether or not she would let go of his hand, she would not hesitate to answer clearly— NO!

She despised every conduct about not putting up great effort and just gave up!

"Did I not let you to sleep early?"

Immersing in her own train of thought, a somewhat helpless and pampering, low and gentle sound lightly echoed, Zhuo Qing swiftly opened her eyes and saw Lou Xi Yan was standing on the side. His hand naturally brushed over the hair on her back, his fingers were fiddling with it, he was especially fond with this habit now, as long as they were together on their own, he would surely stroke her hair.

Standing up and turning her own hair around, Zhuo Qing held his hand and answered: "I am not sleepy, your complexion is not good, go to the inside of the room to talk, ok." His appearance now, was exhausted that made people to feel sorry for him.

Lou Xi Yan allowed her to lead along, both of them returned to the inside room.

Holding and pulling him to the bedside, she pressed her shoulder to let him sit down, Zhuo Qing quietly said: "You have returned so I feel relieved la, rest early, good night."

After she finished talking, she turned around to leave, suddenly her waist was tightened, she was confined into Lou Xi Yan's embrace again, she stood still while Lou Xi Yan was sitting. Looking at him from this angle, the shape of his face was even more perfect, also more and more handsome and bright, his slender hand was supporting her waist softly. Zhuo Qing heard a thumping sound of her own heartbeats once again.

"You do not want to know what the Empress Dowager has said to declare me to enter the Imperial palace?" Slightly raising his eyes to watch attentively at her

bright eyes. He wanted to know what she was thinking.

Zhuo Qing nodded candidly and answered: "I want to know. But your health is more important in my heart." Did he not know that his own face was white and almost like transparent? Perhaps, she should try to find time to research a traditional Chinese medical science, and maybe she could combine the western medicine to treat his illness.....

He really liked her candidness and honesty so he did not want to deceive her either, Lou Xi Yan pondered for a moment, then said concisely: "The main reason that Princess Chao Yun tried to kill herself was because of me, the Empress Dowager asked me to marry her as a wife."

Zhuo Qing lightly knitted her eyebrows, she basically already anticipated this.

Zhuo Qing did not say anything, Lou Xi Yan hurriedly continued to say: "I declined."

Zhuo Qing merely nodded her head to show that she got it, Lou Xi Yan did not clear whether she was happy or angry but he still wanted to continue saying: "The Empress Dowager issued an Imperial decree to let the Princess to recuperate her health at the Prime Minister's manor. The Emperor already granted it so I could not decline this."

Zhuo Qing nodded her head one more time and asked: "Are you finished talking?"

"En." Lou Xi Yan slowly nodded his head, although he had concealed his eyes really good, Zhuo Qing could still see that he was nervous.

Lightly patting his handsome face, Zhuo Qing was still smiling as before and she said: "Rest early."

Her speaking voice was still waning off, the hand that was encircling her waist tightened again, Lou Xi Yan was very rarely glaring at her.

Zhuo Qing was laughing, as it turned out, he could not have any control either, it was confusing time ah. Using her hand to embrace Lou Xi Yan's neck, the bright eyes looked towards his vast as the open sea and deep eyes, Zhuo Qing said in a low voice: "I am not angry, I know that you already strive your hardest for our own future, if she wants to come just let her to come, it is fine. I am not a

silk flower, I do not need to adhere to a tall tree to survive, I do not need to hide behind you either. Let you to cover up the wind and escape from the rain for me (shield her from the trouble), I want you to stand together with me, do you understand the meaning of my words?”

“Ling-er.....” He chose to tell her so he was prepared to accept whatever reaction she would give him, it was also normal if she was angry. He was already very exhausted tonight but he was also prepared to try to appease her attentively. But he did not anticipate that she would reply him like this.

I wanted to stand together with you.....

Using his head to lightly lean against the side of her body, breathing the faint fragrance on her body, Lou Xi Yan was not clear what kind of mood he had at this moment, but his hands were more and more tightened up and just brought her closer to his embrace. This woman was going to accompany and walk with him for the whole entire life, he would not let go of her hands eternally.

His head position was right on her bosom, Zhuo Qing was feeling a little awkward, turning to move twice, his hands were even tighter, his face was snuggling on her bosom and the palms of his hands were caressing lightly, Zhuo Qing had a hundred year rarely seen red face on her face.

The name that he called out from his mouth was not her name, this made her somewhat uncomfortable, she did not desire that every time they were intimate, his mouth called this other woman’s name forever! Thinking about it, Zhuo Qing quietly said: “Call me..... Qing, ok, my childhood name.”

Lou Xi Yan slightly raised his head and asked: “Did you regain your memory?”

Darn it, how could she forget about amnesia because she enjoyed this, she was not really good at telling a lie. Shaking her head, Zhuo Qing hurriedly said: “No, it was Qing Mo who told me that. I am familiar with this Qing’s name and also like it.”

Lou Xi Yan nodded his head and answered: “Very well, ok, Qing-er.”

Not arguing with him intelligently, Zhuo Qing tried to move her body again, awkwardly said: “It is really late, your health is just a little better, sleep, ok, I will leave first.”

Her face was slightly red and she was anxious to run away, this made Lou Xi Yan's mood was extremely good, his eyes flashed through a trace of craftiness, he lifted his head once again to show a pitiful face, Lou Xi Yan lowly mumbled: "Are you not afraid that I will suddenly develop an illness in the evening?"

Boo hoo (crying), how he could use this miserable expression to look at her, this would not do, she could not be softhearted, he was a fox. Deeply breathing, Zhuo Qing did not open her eyes and she answered: "You have Mo Bai by your side."

"He requested a leave of absence tonight." Lou Xi Yan said it with a sincere face, Zhuo Qing was in difficulty, Mo Bai and him were always inseparable, this time when he fell ill at the moment, how could he request a leave of absence! This excuse was extremely rotten!

Standing outside the door, Mo Bai's head filled with sinister lines, he thought that he, himself was very superfluous, the meaning of the Master's words, was it or was it not to make him disappear tonight.....

Looking at his pale complexion, his hands were still settling on her waist, Zhuo Qing lowly smiled: "Then, what do you want?"

"Stay and keep me company." Lou Xi Yan was practically blurting it out, after he finished speaking, he also felt that he was somewhat impudent, putting forward this request was really somewhat excessive.

The meaning of his sentence was not the meaning that she was thinking, right..... (Remember ZQ always has 'yellow' thought according to GY ). One could not blame her, as a modern woman, the meaning behind this sentence was self evident.

Zhuo Qing was in daze watching attentively at him, Lou Xi Yan lightly sighed and said: "You can be at ease, I simply want you to keep me company by my side, nothing more, before the wedding night, I will not do anything on this matter."

"Are you certain?" Zhuo Qing raised her eyebrows.

Lou Xi Yan firmly answered: "I guarantee." In order to express his own sincerity, he also released his hands at the same time.

Zhuo Qing cried piteously, she was afraid that she could not guarantee.....

Deeply breathing, Zhuo Qing removed her shoes and strode over to go on the bed immediately, lying down on the inside of the bed. Looking at Lou Xi Yan who was still sitting on the bed, Zhuo Qing said: "Sleep, ok."

Lou Xi Yan finally recovered and lied down in a daze, Zhuo Qing turned her body around, faintly said this sentence: "Good night." Then, calmly closing her eyes.

Her sleeping posture while she was lying down was pretty, a wonderful and graceful figure that showed more alluring, as if a seaweed with that gentle and beautiful long hair that was draping over her shoulder and scattering by her side. The faint fragrance lingered on the tip of his nose, Lou Xi Yan only heard his own hoarse voice to answer: "Good..... night....."

This..... was his own regret..... Could he still obtain any sleep tonight?

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## Ministry of Justice's Prison

Inside the dark prison, there were only several 'pow pow' sounds from the torch (like crackling sound from a burning torch) on the pavement, under the slightly red light ray, there were two women, one was sitting and the other one was standing, coldly looking opposite each other.

"What do you want to talk to me about?" Gu Yun looked inside the prison, at a calm's woman face. The both of them were fighting in the past, she lowly said this sentence by her ear: "I have some words that I want to speak to you alone." So, she came.

Qu Xin's back was on the stone wall, lightly humphed to say: "You can be at ease, I will not make you to plead for leniency for me. Whatever I have done, I am very clear, I have killed someone so I have to pay for my own life, I do not have anything to complaint. But I am not willing as my elder brother has been treated unjustly, I want to request to you all to help me search the real murderer behind the scene."

"You can feel relieved, there are a lot of people who have already died because of this matter, I will certainly not let the master behind the scene to get away with the crimes." Even though the murderer for this case had been found, but she would not stop at this point either.

Watching attentively at Gu Yun's firm and persistent eyes for a moment, from the inside of Qu Xin's strong black clothing, she pulled out a piece of an extraordinary neat slip of paper, and handed it over to Gu Yun. Gu Yun took it and asked: "What is this?"

Both hands on her chest, Qu Xin explained: "I could kill Yang Liu at any time but nevertheless, I chose to endure with him, it was because I wanted to find the real master behind his back. But these past years, except for Li Zhi, he did not have any other suspicious person whom he was in touch with, and his most treasured object was exactly this piece of paper."

Gu Yun opened it to look, there were numerous characters that were written on it closely together, but the whole thing was 'left left right right, front front back back' several characters, were being repeated again and again, could not see completely what the meaning was. Could it be that was similar to the morse code or the same as the signal code word, or it still needed to combine for example the five phases of Chinese philosophy bagua (wood, fire, earth, metal & water), mysterious method to unlock?!

"I already discovered this piece of paper a year ago, but after thinking for the whole year, I still did not understand what the meaning was, perhaps, you were capable to grasp it fully." She studied it for a very long time, but it was not useful, she could only hope to entrust it to this intelligent and sharp woman who was in front of her.

Gu Yun looked to be confused, she also did not understand what the meaning was, perhaps, she could ask Qing, her mother was a Chinese's national culture professor, she might be able to understand it.

"You go, ok."

Gu Yun lifted her head, just saw that Qu Xin already turned on her back to lie down on the stone bed, she was not willing to chat with her anymore.

Gu Yun did not have anything to say either, also could not say anything, nobody could comfort her, what she could only do was to break this case as quickly as possible.

Sian's notes:

LXY is a fox, but ZQ is definitely a small fox. Hahahaha.... Very smooth indeed

when she asked him to call her childhood name “Qing”. They are really made for each other.

# Record of Washed Grievances Chapter 73: The Princess Arrived

Over 3,600 words.

This chapter was edited by Din2.

In front of the door of the spacious Prime Minister's manor, one big azure color chariot was parking, more than ten Imperial bodyguards were guarding in between the chariot. They were tall with well built statures with strict and threatening eyes, one would know that they were the experts with only one look.

There were also a group of people who were standing outside of the Prime Minister's manor, Lou Xi Yan and Lou Mu Hai were standing in front, Lou Xi Wu and Xue Xian Xin were standing beside them. Comparing to Xue Xian Xin's overjoyed appearance at the turn of the event, Lou Xi Wu seemed to be lacking with any interest, even with some impatience.

One 50 some years old momo walked to the side of the chariot, lightly lifted open the hanging covering veil on the chariot, a pair of well maintained hands extended out from the inside, old momo hurriedly supported with her hands, the respectful person who was inside, came out.

The West Empress Dowager came down from the chariot gracefully and calmly, the ornaments on her body were still lacking as before, but the magnificent dark purple chang pao set off the noble threatening atmosphere.

Following behind the West Empress Dowager was Princess Chao Yun, a touch of light yellow cheong sam made her look even more gentle and beautiful. Two intelligent palace maids were lending their arms to support her left and right hands, perhaps, she did not want to let people look at her thin and pallid look. She was wearing a muslin hat to block the line sight of all of the people.

Looking at the wind seemed to be able to float up the clear shadow, Lou Xi Yan's brows wrinkled, it was not even half a month, how could she completely torment herself like this?!

Through the muslin covering, Yan Ru Xuan was also seeking that gentle man who made her to follow him for so many years. The Imperial mother told her today that Yan gege entered the Imperial palace for her last night, and he requested that she would recuperate at the Prime Minister's manor. She simply did not dare to believe her own ears, she thought that he already did not want her, as it turned out, he was still concerned about her.

"The Empress Dowager, long live, long live, long live. May the Princess has a thousand good fortune and peace." The unavoidable respect to salute, but the Lou family was a flourishing family after all, the West Empress Dowager hurriedly lifted her hand at the gate of the manor, smilingly said: "No need to stand on the ceremony outside of the Imperial palace."

Looking towards Lou Mu Hai, the West Empress Dowager delicately laughed and said: "General Lou, have not seen you for many years, you are still the same strong and healthy as before."

Lou Mu Hai laughed candidly and heartily, with a clear sound, he answered: "The Empress Dowager is over praising, time does not spare anybody, Lao Chen (this old official) is more and more inferior than before."

For the past many years like this, she was already used to the sound volume of Lou Mu Hai, the West Empress Dowager did not mind at all, lowly sighed and said: "Now is the world of the young people, Xi Yan is capable like this, it is really the pillar of the country, you should also believe in the good fortune."

Sweeping over one glance at the calm Lou Xi Yan who was standing beside him, Lou Mu Hai secretly forced a smile, in this life of his, perhaps he did not have any opportunity to enjoy this good fortune.

From the beginning that she was a concubine, she did not have any opportunity to see the Empress Dowager all along, once the Empress Dowager got down from the chariot, Xue Xian Xin hurriedly welcomed right away. Taking the West Empress Dowager's other hand, she extremely ingratiated herself, Lou Xi Wu unbearably turned around to roll her eyes, no bone was just no bone!

The West Empress Dowager took advantage to pad Xue Xian Xin's hand, smilingly said: "Xian Xin ah, this days, Xuan-er will disturb you at the manor, please take care of her properly even more."

The Empress Dowager unexpectedly remembered her name! Xue Xian Xin was very joyful, repeatedly answered to say: “How can the Empress Dowager say that, the Princess can recuperate at the Prime Minister’s manor is naturally our family’s good fortune. I will surely take care of the Princess properly, and raise her until she is plump.”

“Then, it is good.”

Lou Xi Wu was bored to death and lowered her head to wait for this boring dialog to pass hurriedly, who would have thought that the West Empress Dowager suddenly walked in front of her, she lifted up her chin, smilingly said: “This is Xi Wu, right, it has been quite a while that you have not entered the Imperial palace to visit Aijia. Aijia almost did not recognize you, you already grew up as a young lady, really full of life.”

Feeling awkward and retreating one step, Lou Xi Wu embarrassedly answered: “Thank you for the Empress Dowager’s praise.” She never liked the West Empress Dowager in the past, even though she was always smiling with her narrow eyes.

Yan Ru Xuan’s thin and weak health made people to be anxious, he always treated her as another younger sister, she turned into this appearance, Lou Xi Yan’s heart was very guilty, with a low voice, he said; “Cui Xin courtyard has already been tidied up properly, that place is quiet, secluded and tranquil, very suitable to recuperate. Princess is tired from the journey, just rest inside the courtyard, ok.”

The West Empress Dowager recovered herself, smilingly answered: “Aijia as a visitor speaks patronizingly or Xi Yan is considerate to other people’s needs.”

Cui Xin courtyard was located at the most distant part of the Prime Minister’s manor, the environment was indeed elegant and cozy, but nevertheless, it was not the place that the West Empress Dowager had in mind. At the time when she passed through Zhai Xing pavilion during the walk, the West Empress Dowager suddenly stopped her footsteps, quietly said: “Zhai Xing pavilion! This name is really good.”

Finished speaking and no matter who was behind her, she just entered the inside of the court.

Lou Xi Yan's expression slightly flashed out, he also walked slowly to go in.

Looking at the inside of the courtyard afterwards, the West Empress Dowager happily smiled and said: "This courtyard is really not bad, there is a lake up front, and still can look at the new lotus pond." The most important thing was it was next to Lou Xi Yan's Lan Yue building, this was a so called closer proximity and easier access, Xuan-er should live here in this place.

Walking to Yan Ru Xuan's side, the West Empress Dowager asked in a soft voice: "Xuan-er, there is the lotus that you love the most, live in this courtyard, ok?"

Yan Ru Xuan slightly raised her head, looked at the small building not too far away, that was exactly Lou Xi Yan's Lan Yue building. Thinking that she could live with him so close, Yan Ru Xuan's heart was very delighted, but she still answered with some reservation: "The Imperial mother can make the arrangement."

Nodding satisfyingly, the West Empress Dowager laughed towards Lou Xi Yan and said: "Xi Yan, just do not go to Cui Xin courtyard, let Xuan-er live here, ok."

Hearing the West Empress Dowager's words, Lou Xi Yan's complexion was the same, contrary to what one might expect, Lou Xi Wu mumbled on the side: "Someone already lives in this courtyard."

Even if Qing Ling was hateful but comparing to Yan Ru Xuan, this person who pretended to be a noble and virtuous woman, she looked a little pleasing to the eyes.

"Xi Wu." Xue Xian Xin firmly stared at Lou Xi Wu one glance, this young girl did not really understand any rule! If she provoked an anger from the Empress Dowager, she would take any responsibility!

"Is that really?" The West Empress Dowager slightly knitted her eyebrows, smilingly said: "So it turns out there is already someone who lives in there, Aijia is actually not considerate." She did not need or want to know who was living inside, she already decided that Xuan-er would live in this courtyard now!

Xue Xian Xin hurriedly ingratiated herself and said: "The Empress Dowager does not need to say it like that, the Princess likes this place so make that person to move out, ok, the Princess is certainly more important." Qing Ling, that

terrible girl, this would finally destroy her authority!

“What does Xi Yan think?” The West Empress Dowager threw out the question to Lou Xi Yan, she wanted to see until what extend he could defend Qing Ling.

Lou Xi Yan was silent for a moment, the West Empress Dowager was not anxious either, she looked at the lovely lotus pond that was not too far away to wait for his answer.

At this time, the door at Lan Yue’s building suddenly opened, everyone looked at the direction one by one, just to see a girl who was wearing a plain clothing with a sleepy face, walking out. She was dressing neatly, nothing inappropriate at all, but her long hair was still flowing down on her back, her eyes were half opened, all of the people saw a lazy appearance. As long as one was not blind, one could see that she just woke up recently, additionally, she surely looked like she did not have a good sleep last night..... When Zhuo Qing was on the bed with Lou Xi Yan, listening to his sudden rapid and sudden slow breathing sounds, his body was stiff and motionless continuously. She did not know how long she was sleeping either, she was hearing somewhat disturbance sounds from outside in a daze. She did not expect that once she walked outside the door, a group of people were staring at her ceremoniously.

Being stared by those people like this, she could not walk over there either nor could she go back, Zhuo Qing could only wave her hand lightly and ignore all the expressions of surprise or resentful or contempt or longing, she greeted as usual: “Good morning everyone ah.”

Lou Xi Yan broke into laughter, it was almost wushi (between 11 am-1 pm), it was still early! Her waking up and coming out was really in time. Lightly waving towards her, Lou Xi Yan raised his voice to say: “Ling-er, come over.”

Xiao Lian could feel that from the moment the woman whom Lou Xi Yan called ‘Ling-er’ came out of the Prime Minister’s room, the Princess’ body was trembling violently, in between the muslin covering, she could see clearly that the Princess was biting her lower lips tightly, her complexion was as white as a paper.

Zhuo Qing slightly narrowed her eyes, she finally could see that the delegation of people who were standing in front of Zhai Xing pavilion, was the Empress

Dowager and the Princess, right, generously walking pass the zigzag bridge to arrive at the side of Lou Xi Yan, Zhuo Qing awkwardly bowed slightly and said: "May the Empress Dowager, the Princess, have good fortune and peace." This saying was correct, right?

"You may rise, ok." Qing Ling was really favored, but the West Empress Dowager had already seen the knowledge about any kind of thriving favor earlier at the Imperial palace. Every spoiling and cherishing was only for a period of time, her complexion was restored as always, the West Empress Dowager lightly smiled and said: "Aijia is still puzzled a moment ago, how come Aijia does not see Ling-er. Xuan-er wants to live at the Prime Minister's manor, the two of you have the same ages so you can take care of each other, to relieve boredom, the two of you have long days to be fond of each other later."

This was regarded as a hint for her? Or she showed her initial strength? Zhuo Qing indifferently shrugged her shoulder and answered: "But the Princess is highly respectful, I just like to play with dead person's bones, I am afraid that I will scare the Princess."

Zhuo Qing said it gracefully, nevertheless, Yan Ru Xuan's feet were soft, she listened to her explanations behind that layer of curtains the last time, she was almost fainted at that time, how could there was a woman who liked to play with dead person's bones on this earth?! It was extremely scary!

Not only Yan Ru Xuan was scared until her legs became weak, except for Lou Xi Yan, all of the people's complexions were stiff.

Lou Xi Yan did not say to her either, he only shook his head lovingly and asked: "Ling-er, the Princess likes this courtyard, she wants to recuperate at Zhai Xing pavilion, you move out of the Zhai Xing pavilion and give it to the Princess, ok?"

He made her move out? Lightly knitted her eyebrows, Zhuo Qing did not refute on the spot, generously answered: "You are the Master of the manor."

It was best that he gave her an explanation, otherwise..... Zhuo Qing gave him a warning expression and he indeed saw it clearly. Without making her waiting for a long time, Lou Xi Yan lowly smiled and said: "Jing Sa, order people to pack up immediately, take Ling-er's stuffs and move them to Lan Yue building, and let the Princess to go and rest early."

“Yes.” Jing Sa accepted the order and left.

Originally, it was regarded as satisfying to hear Lou Xi Yan’s answer, hearing that one sentence afterwards, the West Empress Dowager’s complexion became gloomy immediately. And the cheeks of the frail countenance behind the muslin covering were already streaming with tears for a long time. She did not understand, since he let her to recuperate at the Prime Minister’s manor, why did he bother to make her heartbroken again?

Swapping the bitterness in her heart, Yan Ru Xuan said: “Imperial mother, you return to the Imperial palace first, ok, I am tired and want to rest, everybody withdraws, ok.” Finished talking, Yan Ru Xuan exhaustingly entered Zhai Xing pavilion.

After Yan Ru Xuan departed, the Empress Dowager did not conceal her displeased heart either, walked to the front of Lou Xi Yan, she said with a cold voice: “Take care of Xuan-er properly, do you understand?”

Lou Xi Yan was still smiling lightly as before and cupping his fists to salute, he answered with a clear voice: “The Empress Dowager can be at ease, Chen is sure to strive my best to take care of the Princess’ health properly.” But it would only be taking care towards an official and a member of the royal family, and unrelated to any male female’s feeling!

The Empress Dowager secretly clenched her teeth but did not say anything, she turned around and went out of Zhai Xing pavilion.

Lou Xi Yan, this was your final chance, if you did not treat Xuan-er properly, you must not blame me for being ruthless!!

The Empress Dowager departed in a rage, Xue Xian Xin hurriedly followed on her back, urgently said: “I will send the Empress Dowager off respectfully.”

Lou Mu Hai simply looked one glance at Zhuo Qing coldly but did not say anything either, then went out of Zhai Xing’s pavilion. Lou Xi Wu watched this good show and extended her thumb up towards Zhuo Qing and ran out giggling.

Zhuo Qing stretched her waist innocently and lazily, all of the birds that woke up early could eat worms, unfortunately, she was the worm that got up early and was already eaten up by the bird, what she was going to do waking up this

early with nothing to do.....

She could only dare mumbling to herself either, the midday sunshine was dizzying people's eyes, so it really could not count as early.

Her hand was covered by a cool palm once again, Lou Xi Yan was leading her hand to return to Lan Yue building.

The Empress Dowager left behind several Imperial bodyguards and palace maid for the Princess, in the middle of the courtyard, a pair of eyes were looking. Zhuo Qing was somewhat uncomfortable, but Lou Xi Yan did not pay any attention at all, she had nothing to fear and allowed him to lead her along, both of them were walking shoulder to shoulder to go through the zigzag bridge.

"Did you sleep good last night?" Lou Xi Yan asked in a low voice, when he woke up in the morning and saw that she was sleeping peacefully, he did not have the heart to wake her up.

Not good, but Zhuo Qing could not say it out loud, she answered casually: "Ok."

Lou Xi Yan suddenly had a long sigh and answered: "I did not sleep too well, I was somewhat anxious at the time."

Zhuo Qing stared blankly and asked: "What happened?" Did he have an outbreak last night? She unexpectedly did not discover it.

"I was afraid....." Deliberately pausing, Lou Xi Yan leaned closer to Zhuo Qing's side, and said in a low voice: "It was not the wedding night yet, because of this, I would be lacking of sleep or too excited and collapsed."

"You....." Finally understanding what the meaning of his words were, Zhuo Qing did not know whether to laugh or cry!

Finally arriving at Lan Yue building, both of them sat down on the stone bench in front of the lotus pond, Lou Xi Yan grimly said: "I suddenly want to change the plan to take you as a wife before the celebration." He could faintly feel that the Empress Dowager would not give up at this point, he really did not want to lose her, and it would also prevent him from getting too many long dreams at night by getting married earlier!

Zhuo Qing shook her head, smilingly said: "You are very busy at the moment, do not distract yourselves thinking about this, as long as we want to be together firmly, as far as I am concerned, whether or not we are married, it does not make any difference, I do not care at all." Getting married was merely an outer appearance, nothing more, even after they got married, if their relationship could not bear any trial, they would have to separate in the end. She was not a fool, the Empress Dowager's intention was very clear, Lou Xi Yan wanted to get married now, she was afraid that he would step on a tiger's tail, she did not want to let him fight without having any weapon! (Meaning that he should be prepared if he wanted to fight with the evil ED).

Taking her hand and put it on his hand tightly, Lou Xi Yan frowned and answered: "I care about it." He wanted her to be his perfectly legitimate wife!

Slightly raising her thin eyes with serene affection, her hand that was grasped was somewhat painful, she could feel his intention, returning to grasp his hand, Zhuo Qing asked: "Are you going to leave home?"

Understanding that she was deliberately changing the subject, Lou Xi Yan did not force her either, and answered: "En, I will probably come back at night time these days." First, it was because of the celebration that would start immediately, there were many different kind of affairs. Second, he intended to avoid Yan Ru Xuan, in order to not have any other issue, it would be good if he met with her less.

Nodding understandingly, Zhuo Qing smiled and said: "I understand, you are busy with your stuff, ok, I will not make myself bored."

As if her words were echoing the sentence that she said, Mo Bai's tall silhouette came from the outside of Lan Yue building hurriedly, and said: "Miss Qing Mo pays a visit."

She would really not be lonely.

Lou Xi Yan lightly released her hand, smilingly said: "Very well, I am leaving, you and your younger sister chat nicely."

"En." Gu Yun came to look for her, it should be that she had a new progress about the case, right.

Sian's notes:

Ok, I think I have said it in the previous chapters before that I actually feel sorry for Yan Ru Xuan, but I have a change of heart reading this chapter. Can she really be this oblivious??? I know that she's always pampered but she doesn't seem to have any intelligent at all even though in the previous chapter, she is supposed to be smart. Or is she just totally blind that she doesn't think that her mom is the one who's forcing this whole thing??? She knows that LXY likes ZQ and there is no way that he will offer her to recuperate in his manor without being forced by somebody. Arrrgggg... It's so frustrating reading this chapter but it's also so satisfying hearing LXY's response. I just feel so bad for Xuan-er but she just doesn't get it!! 'Sighing...'

ZQ always forgets that she's living in ancient time and not modern time. Hehehe.... She thinks like some of the modern women who don't care whether they're married or not. Plus the fact that our foxy LXY has already promised that he won't do anything until their wedding night, how can he agree not to get married? Hahahahahaha...

That two paragraphs in the middle when ZQ showed up from LXY's room was just priceless. Shove it to the evil ED once and for all!!! Xuan-er could take Zhai Xing's pavilion but she wouldn't be able to take ZQ out of LXY's life...

# Record of Washed Grievances Chapter 74: The Gold's Hiding Place

I'm soooo sorry... I posted the wrong chapter earlier!!! This is the right one. Ao Tian is a man with a few words but a lot of actions... I can see why some of the readers like his character... Over 3,350 words.

This chapter was edited by Din2.

Gu Yun entered Lan Yue building, only saw Zhuo Qing's loose hair was dropping on her shoulder, she supported her cheeks, a tired looking appearance on her face. Gu Yun sat down in the stone bench, mockingly said: "You did not sleep good last night."

"En." At first, she thought to refute it, unexpectedly, Zhuo Qing generously nodded, depressingly groaned and said: "The next few days, I think there will be very exciting stuff." Zhai Xing pavilion was really close to Lan Yue building, she was afraid that seeing the Princess frequently would really be awkward. She could not move and abandon Lou Xi Yan regardless, hey.....

Gu Yun lightly knitted her eyebrow, oddly said: "What did I miss?" Was it not that she was saying sweetly that she wanted to get married last night, then it underwent a change of weather first thing in the morning?

Zhuo Qing shook her head, looked towards the side of Zhai Xing pavilion, smilingly said: "You did not miss anything, this was just staging a good show!"

Following her line of sight to look, as it turned out it was formerly Qing's Zhai Xing pavilion courtyard, there were four tall and strong men were standing, distinguish long waists, outside of the room. Furthermore, there were two young girls who were dressing as maids and guarding at that place. Gu Yun asked: "What is the situation?"

Zhuo Qing mockingly shrugged her shoulder, helplessly said: "Hard to explain in a few words, a simple saying is the Princess from Qiong Yue is secretly in love with Lou Xi Yan. When she heard that he was getting married, she tried to kill

herself at the Imperial palace. After she was rescued, the Empress Dowager wanted to make Lou Xi Yan to marry her daughter, but he refused, so she arranged for the Princess to recuperate at the Prime Minister's manor. I reckoned that she intended for her to be in close proximity first, perhaps she was hoping that the rice was cooked or like a drama, ok."

Finished listening, Gu Yun laughed heartily: "The meaning of your words is that you have a love rival."

Gu Yun laughed brashly, Zhuo Qing could not help to laugh lowly on her own either: "You can consider it like that, right." The first time that she fell in love with a man, who would think that she would complicate the issue deliberately, it was not supposed to be like these twists and turns.

Zhuo Qing's smile showed a trace of bitterness, Gu Yun comfortingly said: "Lou Xi Yan is so outstanding, it is normal that you have a love rival, what is the most important is his approach."

Zhuo Qing nodded, and said with self mockery: "He has said that he only wants one wife, it seemed that it should be me at the present time."

"Then it is alright, but you still need to be careful, the power of hatred caused by love is big and can make someone is so terrifying."

She had seen so many cases like this, the deeper the love, the bigger the power to devour, especially when the other part was a Princess, she was somewhat anxious for Qing.

"I will." Quietly smiling, and did not want to make Gu Yun to be anxious because of her, Zhuo Qing asked: "You come here to find me today, is it because the case has a new progress?"

"En." Taking out the slip of paper that Qu Xin handed over to her yesterday, Gu Yun passed it on to Zhuo Qing. Zhuo Qing stared at it and put it in her hand to look at that slip of paper for a long time, suspiciously asked: "What is this?"

It was not that she wanted to ask this kind of vain question, but the note was filled with 'front, front, back, back, left, left, right, right' on it, what did it have anything to do with the case.

Gu Yun explained it: "According to Qu Xin's words, this was Yang Liu's careful

treasured thing over the last years. I think it has something to do with the gold case, but I do not understand what the meaning of these words, I want to listen to your opinion.”

She was seriously studying the piece of paper on her hand one more time, and hoping that she could find some rhythm, but the outcome was still blank. Zhuo Qing shook her head: “I am not that clear either, I will study it again carefully in the evening, ok, when are you going to look at that rock cave place.”

“I am going in a moment.” She and Dan Yu Lan made an appointment to meet at noon at the gate of Ying Tian Government Office.

“I am also going.” While talking, Zhuo Qing braided her long hair quickly, Gu Yun lightly laughed: “Are you sure that you want to run around all over the place during this unusual moment now?” The other person was pressing in from the inside of the house.

Zhuo Qing turned over to give a supercilious look, coldly groaned and said: “Do I have to stay behind to play the eyes staring game? I do not have any spare time.” Pulling Gu Yun, both of them hurriedly went out of the Prime Minister’s manor.

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Zhuo Qing, Gu Yun and Dan Yu Lan met together afterwards, with Ao Tian’s lead, the delegation of people finally arrived at the rock cave near the suburbs of the capital. During the examination of each of the exits of the cave, Qu Ze’s location was indeed the most convenient place to enter or exit the rock cave.

They did not find anything at the outside of the cave, several people walked into the middle of the cave again, the interior of the rock cave was accessible from all sides, but the lane was narrow. The deepest cave was half the size of a soccer field in dimension, the inside was damp, the water was still seeping out from the top of the wall frequently, one could clearly hear the sound of running water. Looking carefully at the side of the cave, there was an underground river about 7-8 meters wide.

Gu Yun crouched at the side of the underground river, lightly tapped on the side of the hard rock, slightly narrowed her eyes to look towards the fine sand and stones that was at the bottom of the river, inside the cave, one could find

this kind of small stone. Grabbing some of the fine sand and stone on her hand and lightly kneaded them with her fingers, the stone produced a rustling sound afterwards, and they disintegrated slowly on her hand. Gu Yun looked at the fine powder on her hand, she called out in a low voice: "All of you, come over to see."

Hearing her calling out, a delegation of people encircled to come over to see that she was crouching in front of a stack of tiny sandy soil. They were watching attentively and earnestly at the grain of rock on her hand, Qian jing did not understand and asked: "Some sand and stones, that is all, what is the problem?"

Inside the prison, he heard all along that this woman who just called out, Qing Mo was very good, he did not understand and even had his disdain that a person like Ao Tian seemed to change and admire her. He came over to follow them today, just for the purpose to see how she would judge the case so amazingly, but what could be so suspicious about these pile of sand and stones?

Lightly patting to remove the thin rock from her hand, Gu Yun pointed at the thick layer of sandy soil from the inside of the underground river, and answered: "The problem is, here is the solubility rock that receives erosion from water after it forms the rock cave, it should not have this type of fine sand and stones, furthermore, it appears that there are too many sands and stones."

"The meaning of your words are, these sand and stones are deliberately transported here by someone." Dan Yu Lan narrowed his eyes, even though the light ray was not so good, but he could still see that the section of this body of water, compared to the section of the river that was in front of the cave entrance, the riverbed was higher by a lot.

Carefully looking, just as Gu Yun was saying, there was a big cave on the side of the underground river, there was many tiny sand and stones, it was clearly difference with the upstream of the water. Qian Jing crouched on the side of the underground river, and talked to himself: "This remote rock cave like this, what are they transporting the sand and stones for?"

Gu Yun's heart already guessed the whole story faintly, smilingly said: "You all thought that it was strange, right, there were so many men and horses who searched the place at that time, unexpectedly, they could not find the chariots that transported the gold. There would be nothing that could disappear without

any trace on this earth, everything was merely diversionary tactic.”

Next to the sound of flowing river made Zhuo Qing’s eyes bright, she answered: “The stream in the underground river here is plentiful, the drainage system is flourishing, this place can definitely be used to hide and store the gold.”

Gu Yun nodded her head: “Correct, as long as the gold are dumped to enter the underground river, then use the sand and stones to bury them, then wait until after the event to dig out the gold again and transport them, it will naturally be top secret. Looking at this, the wagon marks at that time were not used to transport the gold out, it was rather to transport the sand and stones to enter the cave based on this evidence.”

Dan Yu Lan crouched down, grabbed the spongy stone on the ground, but it felt soft to the touch, perhaps, there was some truth in her analysis, this way, it could be explained how the gold disappeared from everyone’s investigation, but where was the evidence?

Qian Jing appeared to have the same thinking as Dan Yu Lan, turning around, Qian Jing said: “You simply guess, that is all, even if it is true, it has already been three years, the gold should be transported out long ago. Some fine sand can not be used to prove your opinion.”

Gu Yun did not start talking either, she already got into the small hole by the side, roaming to inspect next to the smiling Zhuo Qing, Zhuo Qing smilingly said: “That will not be necessary, that much gold to be dumped into the underground river, it is impossible to dig them out cleanly. And this underground river, the stream is plentiful, some small gold will follow and roam down the stream, we should still be able to find some gold.”

Qian Jing patted his thigh, and called out: “Looking at the downstream now, we will know whether or not there is gold.”

Zhuo Qing nodded her head immediately, smiled to look at Qian Jing, she answered: “That was what I meant.”

What was that in her expression..... It gave people goose bumps, Qian Jing lowly called out: “You are going to make me go down to check it?”

Zhuo Qing's hands were still on her chest, the corner of her mouth raised lightly, groaningly said: "Do not tell me that I have to go?"

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It was cold in the underground river, not to mention a woman, how long could a robust man stay in the river, Qian Jing already knew the rhetorical answer himself, curled his lip embarrassingly, removed his jacket unhurriedly, took off his shoes and socks.....

"Pu tong." (Splashing sound when somebody went in the river).

Qian Jing was still dilly dallying, he just heard a loud splashing sound from all around, Ao Tian's dark silhouette already entered the underground river.

Qian Jing's shoes and socks were already taken off, he was just standing at the shore to look somewhat embarrassed. Zhuo Qing looked one glance at him, then all of her gaze was focused at the middle of the underground river where the black clothing with silver hair silhouette was.

Putting the clothes back on now would be too humiliated, Qian Jing lightly coughed and mockingly said: "My swimming ability to reach the deep downstream is better, then I will go to look for it."

Nobody paid attention to him, Qian Jing disappeared instantly to pass through the small cave and entered the downstream of the underground river.

Ao Tian was already roaming and diving in the water for a long time, just now he floated up, Gu Yun urgently said: "How did it go?"

Ao Tian's complexion was very dark and did not say anything, simply shook his head silently.

Zhuo Qing and Gu Yun looked one glance to each other, could it be that they were wrong?

Dan Yu Lan actually had confidence and said: "Look for it again, the thin rock cave seems to be relatively easy to leave the gold."

Ao Tian submerged in the river one more time, the black dresses was rippling, one was almost unable to see where he was, luckily, the shiny bright silver hair reflected out a little rays of light, so one could still know his position.

This time was even longer, just when Zhuo Qing was somewhat anxious if there was an accident, Ao Tian finally came out of the water again.

“Did you find it?”

Ao Tian was gasping for air and did not answer, he only took and threw out the stuff that he found to the shore.

The bright orange yellow flowed out after, then the ticking sound of a metal rolled out, several people encircled it to see, sure enough, it was a broken size of big and small gold.

These pieces of gold should be the ones dumped into the river for a period of time, so it was disintegrated into small pieces.

Dan Yu Lan checked out the surface of the gold carefully, he could see half of the government letter on the corner of the gold ingot, it should be the seal of the government money. Putting the gold into the pocket, Dan Yu Lan looked towards Gu Yun and said; “It is really the gold, moreover, it is the government money, your guess should be correct.”

They really used this method to hide the gold in the underground river during that time.

“Hey, come over quickly, look what I find out.” Several people were still studying the gold, Qian Jing’s excited voice came through from the downstream.

Several people went to the downstream, just to see Qian Jing’s happy smile and lifted out a shining gold ingot from his hand, loudly called out: “50 liang of gold ye.” Who could have thought that there was really gold in the underground river. Taking the gold ingot and put it on the shore, Qian Jing excitedly smiled and said: “The water here is clearer than the front, it should still have gold, I will go to look for them again.”

The water in the underground river was ice cold, he was already staying in the water for a period of time, his lips already became somewhat purple. Looking that he wanted to go down and dive again, Zhuo Qing hurriedly said: “No need, these are already enough proof, you come up, ok.”

Qian Jing opened his big eyes, unhappily answered: “There are gold but I can not pick them up, it is very unfortunate, ok.” 50 liang of gold, ye, he had to catch

several people for that money, there was 50 liang of gold ah.

Strictly speaking, he wanted to go down and dive again, Zhuo Qing was half annoyed, lowly roared and said: “Qian Jing! You want money but do not want your life la! These gold are the government money, they will not be yours even if you pull them out, you come up quickly.” He was already beginning to tremble when he was speaking, he unexpectedly did not agree to climb ashore either, he really liked money so much!!

Listening that the gold would still be transferred to the authorities, Qian Jing was disappointed and curled his lip, finally climbed up the shore,

Dan Yu Lan collected the gold ingot that Qian Jing found, this piece was quite intact, so he could see clearly at the bottom of the gold ingot to see the seal ‘State Treasury Government Money’ on the stamp, this was definitely the gold that was lost during that time.

Taking the gold and hold it in his hand, Dan Yu Lan slightly low voice said unhurriedly: “Since there is a clue in the gold case, I will report to the Imperial household immediately, this will be investigated thoroughly again.”

This meant that the Dynasty would be necessary to experience the wind and rain. (Trail and hardship).

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Dan Yu Lan returned to write the account book, Su Yu seemed to sustain injury during the army training, Gu Yun returned to the General’s manor hurriedly, Zhuo Qing overcame her boredom and returned to the Prime Minister’s manor. The time was still early, Zhuo Qing intended to return to Lan Yue building to catch up on sleep.

Walking to the lane at the Prime Minister’s manor, her ears heard the vague melodious zither sound, it was a little gloomier when compared to the zither, the mellow sound was pleasant to listen also, as if one soft hand was stroking your thought. The sound of the zither had the same kind of popular feeling to appease the strength, Zhuo Qing did not understand any stringed instrument and she was not a music expert either. But she could be captivated by this type of low chant of the zither, her feet unconsciously went to the direction of the place where the zither sound was.

The zither sound came from Lou Xi Wu's courtyard, who would have thought that Lou Xi Wu unexpectedly had this skill to play the zither, she was sure enough a famous family daughter, she really admired her.

This was also the first time that Zhuo Qing entered Lou Xi Wu's courtyard, the bright and beautiful Indian Azalea flowers were planted everywhere inside the courtyard, just in time for the flowering season, the color of the delicate flowers that decorated the courtyard was splendid and magnificent.

There was a big pavilion in the middle of the courtyard, there were thin light muslins floating in the all four sides, she could vaguely see Lou Xi Wu's beautiful silhouette. Zhuo Qing sniggered, this young girl could still create this type of atmosphere, it looked like there was no appearance that resembled a noisy, rude and unreasonable girl like in normal time, she was rather classy.

Approaching to look again, she discovered that there was still another white silk silhouette in front of the courtyard, his back was towards her, the white snowy clothes, black hair as if it was black ink, free and at ease. Accompanying and sitting on the ground, his knees were supporting the dark red zither, slender and delicate forefingers were wandering on the stringed instrument, the beautiful melody was flowing, as it turned out, he was the one who was playing the zither!

The ink hair with the white clothes, the view of the back of this person, but he was already appeared clean, tranquil and with calm personalities, she could not see his appearance. Zhuo Qing nevertheless, already determined in her heart that this person was certainly indifferent and peaceful, a person with elegant and refined manners, she just had this feeling but she could not tell what the reason was.

Was he the person inside the Prime Minister's manor?

The inside of the Prime Minister's manor unexpectedly still had this kind of person, who..... was he?

# Record of Washed Grievances Chapter 75: Su Mu Feng

Disclaimer: Translating musical instrument or the name of the songs in this chapter is very difficult. Darn Qian Lu, the author, she has to use detail descriptions in her novel. Do you all know this zither instrument, right? I suppose it's the ancient time version of a piano but zither is using strings instead. Let me know if you have never seen a picture of the zither & I'll see if I can find any. Over 3,000 words.

This chapter was edited by Din2.

One perfect final rhythm to end the song, the wonderful sound of the zither, Lou Xi Wu took a long time to recover, separated by the light muslin, she did not know when Zhuo Qing who was quietly standing at the side, entered the inside of the courtyard, Lou Xi Wu called out: "Why did you come?" Did she not go out earlier?

Zhuo Qing mockingly shrugged her shoulder and answered: "The music was so pleasant to hear, I came to to enjoy it." Even though she did not understand it too much, but it did not prevent her to appreciate it.

The white clothing man put down the zither in between his knees, slowly got up to look towards the person behind him. Zhuo Qing was also curious and looked back at the man, he was standing against the ray. Zhuo Qing slightly narrowed her eyes to see his face clearly, this one glance already made Zhuo Qing's eyes to stare blankly for a moment.....

On this land under heaven, someone could seriously grow up like this?! The face was clean as if a clear cut jade ice sculpture, colorful plump lips like plum flower, deep eyes as if the calm deep pond water, could practically drown someone to die, perfect facial features (five sense of the organs), distinctive upright, the rising white clothing emitted a magnificent jade on him.

Lou Xi Yan always wore white clothing too, but the atmosphere that he gave to people was out of the ordinary feeling, liked an elegant and respectable manner, gentle as jade. But this man gave someone this kind of pure, cold and graceful,

to become indifferent feeling.

The man was also calmly looking at her, Zhuo Qing slightly nodded, introduced herself politely: "I am Qing Ling."

With regards to the alarmed admiration's line of sight, the man seemed to be used to it long ago, his complexion was tranquil like water, but when he heard this Qing Ling's name, the indifferent face flashed through a trace of great waves, he asked: "Qing Ling of Hao Yue?"

Speechless..... The Qing family sisters' reputations were so resounding! Zhuo Qing awkwardly answered: "It..... should be, right."

The man did not continue to say anything either, he simply nodded slightly and said: "Su Mu Feng."

Su Mu Feng, the name was quite pleasant to hear, Zhuo Qing liked to look straight at the other people when she was talking so Zhuo Qing suddenly discovered, his eyes were unexpectedly black with a hint of silvery light color, dazzling eyes that one could look at unconsciously, after looking carefully, that silver grayish eyes were like a vortex that made people unable to move their line of sights.

She was looking too excessively, ok!! Lou Xi Wu was unable to bear it in the end, lifting the light muslin to come out, she called out: "Hey, you have looked enough, do not think that my brother is not here so you can be unrestrained!"

Being yelled by Lou Xi Wu, Zhuo Qing finally recovered, looked at her threatening gestures, Zhuo Qing suddenly said towards her with a surprise face: "Jing Sa, how come you are here too?"

Hearing the name of Jing Sa, Lou Xi Wu got panicky completely, hurriedly turned her head, behind her was only the lovable flower pavilion, where was anybody's shadow? Becoming aware that she was being played with, Lou Xi Wu was ashamed into anger, loudly called out: "Qing Ling! You unexpectedly dare to deceive me!"

Just loving to see her vixen's look, spreading out her hands, Zhuo Qing with a crafty smile, said: "Lou Xi Yan is here, I am also like this and not like you, Jing Sa is not here, you just change into a small stray cat la!"

“You!!” Not knowing whether it was anger or ashamed, Lou Xi Wu’s complexion was slightly red, staring at Qing Ling for one glance, she groaned and said: “Go out, do not hinder my learning zither!”

Studying zither? Zhuo Qing looked towards Su Mu Feng who was calm all along and standing on the side, she asked: “You are a zither’s teacher?”

“Yes.”

He did not resemble like one, his temperament did not resemble like a zither’s teacher should be, strictly speaking, maybe, his personal perception should not merely a zither’s teacher. Getting curious towards him, Zhuo Qing retreated for several steps afterwards. Leaning towards the cold pavilion stone on the side, Zhuo Qing smilingly said: “You all continue, I will listen on the side.”

Who would let you listen ah , Lou Xi Wu still wanted to flip out, another gentle female’s voice came through from the outside of the courtyard faintly: “I do not know whether or not I can also listen?”

Everyone looked to only see the meager and beautiful’s shadow, that came walking graciously.

Yan Ru Xuan still had that light yellow cheong sam (long skirt) on her, but there was no bamboo hat anymore, her complexion was slightly white, it looked somewhat haggard, frail figure, with the help of a palace maid, she slowly walked and made people to take even more pity on her.

Zhuo Qing observed quietly this so called rival in love in front of her eyes, the first time she saw her, she was wearing a palace maid’s clothing, her head was always slightly lowered, she already knew at that time that she was beautiful. Looking at her today, even though she was haggard, but it did not lose any of her beauty, young face, eyes liked hazy water, a touch of sadness on her countenance. If she was a man, it was reckoned that one would love her dearly, right.

Yan Ru Xuan slightly raised her head to look towards Zhuo Qing, Zhuo Qing generously nodded to give courtesy to her, Yan Ru Xuan only left her line of sight silently, she did not know how she should face this woman’s gaze.

Lou Xi Wu was very disgusted by her sickly look but arrogant appearance,

perfunctorily gave courtesy, she said: "Pay respect to Princess."

"Xi Wu, there is no need to be too polite between you and I." She did not understand why Xi Wu did not like her, it was like this from childhood, no matter how she expressed goodwill, she was always complexly ignoring her like this.

How did you say this, Lou Xi Wu was impolite, directly over did it, she did not feel to pay attention to her.

How could she be this rude towards the Princess, Xiao Lan's anger was about to flare up, but her sleeve was pulled lightly by Yan Ru Xuan, the fire in her stomach could only be swallowed back.

The atmosphere inside the small courtyard was very awkward, until a clear, cold and muffled of a male sound echoed: "Pay respect to the Princess."

Yan Ru Xuan hurriedly looked towards the man who was wearing a white clothing on the side, slightly bent over, smilingly said: "Su Gongzi, I trust that you have been well since we last meet."

Su Mu Feng indifferently smiled and answered: "Su mou is always well, thank you for Princess' concerned."

Looking towards the two people who were talking, it seemed that they were actually familiar with each other, Zhuo Qing lightly knitted her eyebrows. Yan Ru Xuan was still saluting him unexpectedly, this person's identity really made people to be suspicious.

"The sound of Gongzi's zither is tranquil from a distance, every time I hear it, it can make people's head to feel peaceful, I do not know whether or not today is a fortunate day that I can still listen to Gongzi's song, Yun Chang Su." She just heard the melodious zither sound, so could come over, he also played Yun (cloud) Chang (skirt/lower garment) Su's (tell) song in the past, but she did not understand or appreciate it at that time, after growing up gradually, she just knew the artistic concept within the song.

Su Mu Feng lightly shook his head and answered: "Because of Princess' mood today, it should not listen to this song, Su mou will play another song for Princess, ok."

He already said it like this, Yan Ru Xuan could only nod her head and answered:

“Good.”

Su Mu Feng sat down cross legged, he put the zither on his knees, supported by the fresh and green lawn, both hands were caressing the strings, his slender fingertips were on the strings, conveniently, the beautiful three octave zither sounds played out lightly, excellent skill. Zhuo Qing was listening and did not understand, but she could still listen to the melody smoothly and easily.

The front part of the musical composition was like flowing water, the middle part was passed on completely and suddenly with slow moving bass, every string's voiceless consonant seemed to be able to enter into people's hearts. Listening to the people's mood that were somewhat depressed, Su Mu Feng's left hand suddenly nudged the strings, the tune turned from low to high once again, along with his tune, the mood unexpectedly became tranquil and slowly changed to calm and joyful. The ending of the harmony was like a water drop stone that was soft and melodious.

The end of the song, everybody who was inside the small courtyard had not recovered, they were still immersing in that beautiful music, for a very long time, Yan Ru Xuan lightly sighed and said: “Many thanks, Gongzi. I do not know what the name of the song is.”

It seemed that her appearance was really bad, even Su Mu Feng, himself, could see her worry, ‘Yun Chang Su’ was a sad melody, he went to play a winding music for her, nevertheless, she could feel peaceful with the music at the end. He was still the same and could understand people's inner hearts.

Su Mu Feng got up one more time, smilingly said: “Qin (seep) Xin (heart) Song (ode).”

Was it Qin Xin Song?! Yan Ru Xuan forced a smile and said: “It is really a good name, Gongzi is playing the music even better.” He was also the only one who could play the music with this vitality, right.

Softly taking the zither to put it inside the red sandalwood case on the side, Su Mu Feng picked up the wood case and said towards Lou Xi Wu: “The time is not early anymore, today's school will end here, ok. Su mou will take my leave.”

“Su-er, send Gongzi off.” Lou Xi Wu could only nod, her heart was secretly cursing Yan Ru Xuan again, if it was not because of her disturbance, she could

still learn a little bit more, could invite Su Mu Feng to spend a lot of hard work on elder brother!

“Gongzi, this way please.” Su Mu Feng was following the maid to leave the courtyard, suddenly stopped his footsteps to look towards Zhuo Qing and said: “Miss Qing, if there is another opportunity another day, Su mou will ask for advice about the zither to Miss.”

Finished speaking, he did not wait for her response, turned and left at once, Zhuo Qing was confused and looked towards Lou Xi Wu, she asked: “What kind of person is he?”

Lou Xi Wu turned around and gave a supercilious look, she answered: “He is the fourth son of the temperament aristocratic Su’s family manor. He appeared to have an extremely high artistic attainment in music since he was a child. It is not impossible that he knows how to play in every kind of musical instruments, nothing that can not be played by him, especially zither, xiao (a type of flute), as long as people have listened to his song, everyone will become intoxicated without exception. At 16 years of age, he played a song, Feng (phoenix) Hai (still) Chao (nest) at the celebration festival, his skill was startling the whole world. The Emperor bestowed him Qiong Yue’s first musician on the spot, therefore he was indeed Qiong Yue’s youngest, the most famous musician. How many Princes and Princess, high ranking officials and dignitaries, all want to use up any method to invite him to teach the zither.”

Zhuo Qing understood and nodded her head: “So, it is like that.”

Zhuo Qing looked like she was dreaming at first but then becoming aware, and it made Lou Xi Wu laughed heartily: “You should already listen to his taboo name just now ah! Why are you still expressionless like this!” Su Mu Feng’s famous name was not known to everyone, only the country’s aristocrats and famous or influential families at the minimum, but his reputation was indeed very resounding.

Zhuo Qing answered boldly and confidently one more time: “I have amnesia.”

Always forgetting about this matter, Lou Xi Wu secretly cursed to herself for not having any brain, her mouth was talking endlessly, Lou Xi Wu suggested: “Next time when he comes to teach at the manor, it will be good that you also

come to ask for guidance to him,”

After listening to this, she shook her head at once: “Forget about it, after I lose my memory, I do not have any expression on this completely, I reckon that I can not learn it either, just do not torment him.” Should not torment her either!! With regards to musical composition, she only knew the difference between pleasant to hear or not pleasant to hear, that was it.....

Lou Xi Wu did not give up either, she continued to walk and say: “Maybe, with more contacts, you can remember it, your zither skill is also well known in the six countries ah, it is a pity if you forget it like this.”

As it turned out, Qing Ling’s zither skill was this much high, no wonder when Su Mu Feng said, he wanted to ask for advice with her..... Firmly shaking her head, she was not really familiar with reading music staffs, offering a treat to an unappreciative audience was still not nice!! Giving a couple of hollow laughs, Zhuo Qing relaxedly answered: “Forget is just forget, right, everything is according to the predestined affinity.”

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Investing so much time in learning the zither, and now she could just say to let it go, how many people could say it like that? Yan Ru Xuan, nevertheless, admired Zhuo Qing, but she did not know in this matter about zither skill that Zhuo Qing had never even picked it up.....

“How destitute oh, I will return first.” Extremely nervous that Lou Xi Wu still wanted to chant in her ears, Zhuo Qing stretched her waist while saying and walking out of the courtyard.

“Please stay.” Zhuo Qing only took one step, but somebody called out to stay, but the person who called out to her was not Lou Xi Wu, it was rather Yan Ru Xuan.

Zhuo Qing stopped her footsteps, looked towards Yan Ru Xuan, for a very long time, then she said in a low voice; “Miss Qing, I want to have a chat with you alone, is that possible?”

What did she want to say to her? What could they say between them? Zhuo Qing’s heart thought it was funny, but she did not refuse her either, generously answered: “Ok ah, go to Lan Yue building, ok.”

After finished speaking, she took a lead to walk out, Yan Ru Xuan hesitated for a moment, then followed her out.

Lou Xi Wu was staring at Zhuo Qing's relaxed back, originally, she could still listen to what they were saying, who thought that crafty woman would not let her listen to them unexpectedly! Humph!

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The two people, one was in the front and the other one was on the back, entered Lan Yue building, Zhuo Qing did not enter the house, just sat down on the rock bench in front of the pond to guard against other's intention. Even though Yan Ru Xuan looked as if she was gentle and weak, who knew whether or not she would harm herself, she would be framed to assassinate the Princess at that time, then even if she plunged into the Yellow River, she would not be washed clear either.

Also maybe Yan Ru Xuan's clever way to blackmail Lou Xi Yan to marry her, or else just wanted to have her small life for her own.

Her brain was enjoying these subjective ideas in every kind of TV play's common plots, Zhuo Qing concluded in short, she still had to be careful as well!

Yan Ru Xuan sat down directly in front of her, she said to Xiao Lian who was on her side: "Withdraw, ok."

"Princess?" How could she leave the Princess? What was to be done if this woman was harmful towards the Princess?

"Withdraw." Yan Ru Xuan's tone was slightly cold, even if Xiao Lian was unwilling, she could only withdraw, she walked away to leave the two people until there was some distant. Xiao Lian stopped, she would not be able to hear their conversations like this, but she could see what they were doing, if that woman dared to act recklessly, she would definitely not spare her!

The palace maid had already retreated, there was nobody except them inside the courtyard, this Princess slightly lowered her head to look at those lotus flowers that were just blooming a moment ago. She did not say any word either, Zhuo Qing had waited for a good moment, she was really somewhat impatience, she said: "What do you want to say, just say it, ok."

She was really curious, what did Yan Ru Xuan want to talk to her after all?

# Record of Washed Grievances Chapter 76: Between Laughters and Tears

Let's try this chapter again... Sorry Aloha, I haven't proofread chapter 77 so you have to wait until Monday for the chapter. At least I won't take Dark Jackel's bet for daring me to take a month or two months hiatus... so you only have to wait until Monday... Over 3,000 words.

This chapter was edited by Din2.

"I....."

Yan Ru Xuan's 'I' for a while, she did not speak out another word, to be honest, one beautiful woman who was sitting in front wished to say something but still ashamed, nevertheless, she was still pleasing. It was a pity that Zhuo Qing's patience was limited, lowly sighed and said: "You actually do not know what you want to say to me either, is that right?"

Originally, Yan Ru Xuan was still somewhat hesitating, listening to Zhuo Qing's words afterwards, she suddenly smiled once, with a soft voice, she said slowly: "The first time that I saw him, I was only five years old, I remembered that Second Imperial brother was teasing me at that time, taking a hold of my most favorite silk handkerchief and hanging it on the tree branch. I was crying and calling out for a long time, the palace maids and eunuchs were berated by the Second Imperial brother, nobody was helping me. It was then, at that time, he appeared, that meager (thin) silhouette entered into my eyes, and also entered into my heart. He helped me to take the silk handkerchief down, still helped me to wipe my tears dry. I would never forget eternally, his smile was so gentle and so warm."

Yan Ru Xuan's facial expression was too dreamy and..... happy, completely immersed in her own constructed world, Zhuo Qing's expression slightly flashed across in her mind, but she did not interrupt her all along, silently listening to her talk.

With great difficulty, Yan Ru Xuan recovered, the original happy smile immediately changed in to some bitterness: “Marrying him is my dream since I was a child until I grow up, I do not know if there is no him in my life, how can I survive?”

Zhuo Qing frowned and asked: “Therefore when you realized that he actually did not love you, you decided to kill yourselves?”

“Maybe what I did was foolish.” Smiling sweetly on her young face, she still did not know how to hide a trace of happiness in her heart, maybe could say that she did not wish to hide it, Yan Ru Xuan smilingly answered: “I think, he may have liked me a little bit in his heart, take a pity on me. Otherwise he will not let me recuperate in his home.”

“Your mother have told you this?” Her face hardly concealed her happiness that made Zhuo Qing was somewhat anxious, this kind of misleading, with regards to the current her, it might be the last straw to save her life, then again, it could push her deeper into the abyss.

Yan Ru Xuan lifted her head up swiftly, looked towards Zhuo Qing’s clear and bright eyes, urgently said: “Do not tell me that it is not so?”

The woman in front of her who was only a little over ten years old, with a confused face that was watching her attentively, Zhuo Qing could not bear to smash her dream. Even if she said it, Yan Ru Xuan would not necessarily believe her either.

Forget about it, Zhuo Qing did not reply to her, she changed the subject and asked: “Then what are you planning now?”

“I..... do not know.” Hesitating once again, Yan Ru Xuan forced a smile and said: “He does not love me.”

Zhuo Qing stared blankly, she thought that Yan Ru Xuan was always living in her own world, believing that Lou Xi Yan and her were in love, only then when she heard the news that he was getting married, she collapsed afterwards and attempted suicide. At the moment, it appeared that her heart was obviously cleared about this very much, Zhuo Qing did not understand: “You obviously know, why do you still want to waste time on him?”

“My heart is his, completely his, ten years, ten years, I can not be without him, from the beginning, I can never able to resist my own heart.” If it was indeed a waste of time, she had already wasted too much times, and was unable to free herself.

Watching attentively at the eyes in front of her that even though it had a damage feature, but it was still a glorious woman, deeply breathing, Yan Ru Xuan said: “Can I ask you a favor?”

Looking at her who seemed to summon her courage completely, Zhuo Qing could not help to ask: “What?”

Nibbling her lips, Yan Ru Xuan clenched her teeth, her voice was somewhat trembling: “Please let me marry him, ok.”

With a thumping sound in her heart, Yan Ru Xuan held her breath to wait for Zhuo Qing’s answer.

Yan Ru Xuan was nervous and also embarrassed, Zhuo Qing, nevertheless, broke into laughter and said: “This is not a problem whether or not I will let you marry him.” As it turned out, everybody thought that she was a hindrance and did not let Lou Xi Yan to take a concubine?! It seemed that Yan Ru Xuan still did not understand, the main point in this argument was not on her!!

Thinking deeply for a moment, Zhuo Qing bluntly asked: “You reply my questions first, ok, you can put up with the person whom you love, beside you, there is actually another person, still this other woman, he loves her so much more than he loves you? When he hugs you, kisses you, will you not think that he is kissing another woman? When you need him, yet he is with this other woman in another room, will you not feel heartache? Will you not ask for more? So through out the day, is this not the type of self torture? Can you entirely accept these?”

What Zhuo Qing said somewhat entered the bone, Yan Ru Xuan’s face was more and more white, solely imagining Zhuo Qing was saying these, it was already enough to make her in pain in her heart. But this ache, compared to the ache of losing him was insignificant, exerted herself to nod, Yan Ru Xuan with a trembling voice answered; “I..... I..... can.”

If she really could, why should she look almost fainted, Zhuo Qing shook her

head, with a clear voice, she said: "I can not. Everyday I will live in jealousy, suspicion, demanding, loathing, make myself to become repulsive. I do not want this kind of life, also do not want this kind of man, so you do not need to ask me to let you marry him. If he wishes to take you as his wife, I will leave."

The woman who was in front of her was enveloped by the setting of multicolored sun rays, icily arrogant expression, firm tone, self confidence with an elegant manner, Yan Ru Xuan conceded, she was convinced by her. It was Yan Gege who gave her this kind of confidence, right, Yan Ru Xuan was somewhat unwilling and sneeringly said: "You speak so free and at ease, it is because you know that the person whom he loves is you, it is also because you do not love him enough either."

Zhuo Qing simply did not know whether to laugh or cry, she could not tolerate Lou Xi Yan taking a concubine, in that case, it showed that she did not love him enough?! In her heart, this so called love was whether or not it was endlessly sacrificing one's life? Endlessly indulging?! Endlessly abusing oneself?! Zhuo Qing immediately stood up and answered: "Very well, between you and I, there is really nothing to say."

If she continued to talk with her again, she would be furious, looking at Zhuo Qing who wanted to turn around to walk, Yan Ru Xuan also got up promptly, lowly shouted: "I must become his wife, I..... can not not have him."

Her feet that were lifted up stopped, lightly raised her eyebrows, Zhuo Qing coldly groaned and said: "You will declare a war with me?" Being soft could not do, then she would be tough?

Facing Zhuo Qing's ice cold question, Yan Ru Xuan hastily shook her head again: "No, I only hope that I can be together by his side, and get along peacefully with you."

"It is impossible." Zhuo Qing's answer was extremely quick, hardly compromising, she said: "I have said it, if he picks you, I will leave immediately, I will not come between you and him, because at that time, he is not the person whom I love. If the person whom he picks is me, I will absolutely not allow him to have a second woman, this is not targeted to you, I will have the same attitude towards whichever woman."

“Why do you sever any relation with him like this?” Yan Ru Xuan did not really understand.

Zhuo Qing did not conceal her own opinion, tranquilly answered: “Because, I love him, but I love myself more.”

Zhuo Qing’s answer made Yan Ru Xuan’s original pale face to become annoyed and flushed in anger in a flash.

“How can you be selfish!” She indeed did not love Yan Gege enough, would only consider her own needs, this kind of woman absolutely did not match with Yan Gege!

Yan Ru Xuan’s indignant explanation, she simply did not understand the meaning of her own sentence, both of them were not from the same world. Zhuo Qing felt tired and were not in the mood to explain, coldly answered: “Maybe.” Finished speaking, Zhuo Qing walked towards the inside of the house.

Staring at that ‘bossy and domineering’ back, Yan Ru Xuan clenched her fists, and with a loud voice, she said: “I will not give him up.”

Not turning around, her footsteps were the same as always, Zhuo Qing coldly said these three words: “As you wish.” Her patience was already running out!

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The night was like an ink stick, the moon liked a hook.

A woman’s long hair was draping over her shoulder, half lying on the window frame, her hand was pinching one piece of paper, her eyes were always staring at the densely packed characters, but her expression was unfortunately empty, just like she had lost her soul.

After chatting with Yan Ru Xuan in the afternoon, Zhuo Qing had this incapable than desirable feeling, it was maybe from childhood’s worldview and value, the romance outlook was entirely different. She could not understand the ancient period woman’s way of thinking, did not know how to communicate with them either, she was glad that she met with Lou Xi Yan, if it was another man, they should also think the same as Yan Ru Xuan and would use ‘selfish’ to evaluate her, right.

Lou Xi Yan was standing by her side for a good moment, she was still in her own universe, he thought if he did not say anything, it was reckoned that she would not discover that he had already returned.

Lightly patting her shoulder as he was afraid to scare her if he suddenly said something, Lou Xi Yan with a soft voice asked: "What are you looking at that makes you so entranced like this?"

Sure enough, even though Lou Xi Yan already lowered his voice as much as possible, Zhuo Qing was still startled, raised her head to look towards Lou Xi Yan who was by her side, puzzlingly asked: "How come you came back really early today?" Did he not say that he would come back really late this afternoon?

"Still early?" Lou Xi Yan's thin eyes slightly raised, looked outside the window for one glance to see the pitch dark and quiet lake, she unexpectedly resented that he came back early? It seemed that he needed to work harder to make her miss him more, all right.

Zhuo Qing looked towards the outside window, only then she realized that the sky was already dark, she thought that she was lying on the window frame for only a short moment, that was all, who would have thought that it was already this late. Somewhat embarrassed, Zhuo Qing gave a hollow smile, raised her head to avoid looking at Lou Xi Yan's gloomy face.

She was somewhat strange tonight, Lou Xi Yan was concern and he asked: "What is going on with you? Feeling uncomfortable? Or, what are you worrying about?" She and Yan Ru Xuan were talking alone this afternoon, Jing Sa had already reported it back to him. Originally, he did not want to ask because he believed that she could deal with her. But she had this preoccupied appearance now, and it made him feel sorry for her.

Perfunctorily shaking her head, Zhuo Qing swayed a piece of paper on her hand, and answered: "Nothing, Qing Mo gave me this piece of paper today, she said that this was Yang Liu's valuable stuff before he died, maybe there was a connection to the gold case. I studied it for half a day, but it did not come up, I thought for a long time, and was somewhat entrapped, nothing more."

Sure enough, as his expectation, she was still not willing to say it, no longer questioning it closely, Lou Xi Yan laughingly said: "Can you let me look at it?"

Dan Yu Lan already reported and requested to reinvestigate this case, continued to pursue the gold's whereabouts, the Emperor gave his consent immediately, it was after all one million liang of gold! But this gold case was definitely related to the important ministers in the Imperial court, he was afraid that any development would be bloody and fishy.

Taking the paper on her hand to give it to Lou Xi Yan, Zhuo Qing's heart was filled with expectation, she asked: "You say whether or not there is some code word? Maybe it is some secret code? Have you ever studied astrology?"

Lou Xi Yan broke into laughter: "I am not proficient in astrology at all." Even though he really enjoyed her adoration expression, it was a pity that he really did not understand astrology methodology. Unfolding the paper, he only saw the words 'front front back back left left right right' on it. These words, no wonder she was confused, he also did not understand when he saw it.

Looking for a good moment, Lou Xi Yan was also unable to fully grasp, taking the paper to return it to Zhuo Qing, Lou Xi Yan lightly smiled and cautioned: "Have you thought it, Yang Liu was only a Lieutenant General at the General's manor, he was only an ordinary military man! The stuff that he left, could it be related to astrology, code word or secret code?"

Zhuo Qing made a striking sound with her finger, smilingly said: "That is right, how come I have not thought of it! We might make things too complicated, in fact, what he wanted to express was the most superficial thing."

Lou Xi Yan approvingly nodded his head, but Zhuo Qing's face suddenly looked defeated again, distressingly sighed: "But what is the most superficial thing anyway?"

Feeling sorry about her worry appearance on her face, Lou Xi Yan pulled her hand to stand up, comfortingly said: "Well, you have thought about this for one whole day, do not think anymore, rest early, ok. Maybe there is a flash of divine light tomorrow, and you can get it."

Zhuo Qing gave a supercilious look, which flash of divine light could be easy like this, but it seemed that she really had some reason. Taking the paper and putting it on the pocket inside her belt, Zhuo Qing generously answered: "Very well, go to sleep."

Crossing over the screen to enter the inside room, Zhuo Qing suddenly discovered that there was a small bed next to Lou Xi Yan's big bed, just half the size of the big bed, Zhuo Qing strangely said: "Why are there more beds in the room?" She did not discovered this in the afternoon?!!

Lou Xi Yan finally said to her: "You know now that you have made yourselves to be fascinated a moment ago, ok."

They just brought it in?! Heaven, she was unexpectedly absent minded at this stage!! Even if she was dead, she would not admit it, Zhuo Qing hurriedly shifted the subject: "Your bed is already so big, why do you still want to bring in another bed?"

Finished asking afterwards, she thought that she was really stupid, sure enough, Lou Xi Yan was somewhat helpless, somewhat flirting, and with a somewhat teasing's smile, he said: "You sleep in the big bed, I sleep in the small bed, I am afraid if I share a bed with you, I can not wait until our wedding night, then I will take a hold of you....."

His words had not yet finished, but the meaning was already clear, he was actually, for the sake of himself also, shared a pillow with his beloved woman, but could only see. This was really an enormous torment, he was afraid that his self control would eventually unable to resist the temptation!

Zhuo Qing was laughing, she naturally understood what he meant, but as a modern person, a premarital relationship with the person whom one loves was a very common matter. She did not think that there was any problem at all, facing Lou Xi Yan's fascinating phoenix eyes, Zhuo Qing lowly laughed and said: "Nobody wants you to wait anyway."

Lou Xi Yan's body was stiff, he obviously understood that this was Zhuo Qing's invitation, under the candle light, her figure was graceful, eyes like fire, forcing a mouthful of saliva, Lou Xi Yan staggeringly retreated one step, then urgently said: "It is not early anymore, sleep, ok. Good night"

Finished speaking, he laid on the small bed by the side extremely quickly.

Zhuo Qing stared blankly and stood there, not knowing whether to laugh or cry for a moment, what should she do..... She gave him a permission, but he still did not want to take it?!

This was injuring her self esteem?!

Or in theory, he needed a little bit of stimulation.....

## Record of Washed Grievances Chapter 77: A Minor Incident That Sparked A War

I'm posting this chapter a little earlier... This was kind of an embarrassing chapter to translate... ☺ ☺ ☺ Darn it, I was still blushing when I did the proofreading... Don't yell at me for the interruption though... This was actually a short chapter, only over 2,500 words.

This chapter was edited by Din2.

Thinking of Yan Ru Xuan's provocation in the afternoon, and saying that she did not worry about it completely was definitely a lie, Lou Xi Yan was more of a nobleman, it made her want to have something to happen with him even more. Anyway, they loved each other, and getting marriage was the prerequisite of the relationship, if this relationship was to occur, it should be normal, right.

Building her mental state properly for a moment, she decided that she wanted to seduce Lou Xi Yan!

But saying was easy, how did she want to do it? She did not have any experience, while Zhuo Qing was trying to remember and compare the classical television soap opera, she walked to the front of Lou Xi Yan's small bed. Her hair was a little bit messy, bowing her head to look at her own clothing, she clenched her teeth, Zhuo Qing removed the most outer light muslin garment of hers and threw it on the ground, there was only a thin clothing on her body now. If she took it off again, then the only thing left was her undergarment that covered her chest and abdomen..... Deeply breathing, Zhuo Qing with a soft voice, called out: "Xi Yan....."

"En?" Lightly humphing, Lou Xi Yan did not turn around to see Zhuo Qing who was behind him.

Zhuo Qing persisted and charmingly called out: "Xi Yan~~"

Finally, Lou Xi Yan helplessly turned around, he just heard a rustling noise of a person behind him just a moment ago, he suspected that this girl surely was

setting up some crafty plot, who knew that once he turned around, he only saw Zhuo Qing who was barely wearing a thin clothing. The moonlight shined upon her, under the enchanting candle flame, her curvy figure was exposed completely, a water fall like hair was slightly messy behind her, following a lightly night wind that was floating, fine black hair and twining moonlight. Lou Xi Yan breathed and trembled in fear, she was still opening her pair of bright eyes, looking at him with fixed eyes, sparkling and attracting the rays of light.

Lou Xi Yan unconsciously swallowed his saliva, sorrowfully sighed and said: “Qing-er..... do not look at me like this.” She really should not imagine that his self control was so good!!

The result seemed to be good, Zhuo Qing smirked, continued to murmur and say: “Yan~~”

Darn it, she called out and his bone got soften quickly, Lou Xi Yan’s expression was dark, his low voice sounded like it was somewhat hoarse: “Qing-er, you are playing with fire.”

What she wanted was exactly this result, it seemed that seducing someone was not really that difficult, using her body to press closer fearlessly to Lou Xi Yan, her hand was going up to his neck.

“Xi.....” Zhuo Qing’s words had not finished yet, she only felt like the sky span and the earth turned around, she was already taken advantage by Lou Xi Yan. Both of them went backward on the couch, Lou Xi Yan’s hand was already on her waist, the palm that was always slightly cool was unexpectedly and astonishingly scalding, through the thin clothing material, the heat passed over without reservation.

Lou Xi Yan’s long and narrow eyes softly squinted, with blurry charm, their bodies were tightly sticking, Zhuo Qing could feel that his heart was palpitating really quick. The scorching body temperature made Zhuo Qing’s face gradually blushed.

She had not thought yet, what she wanted to do next, her lips felt numb, Lou Xi Yan’s strong kiss was in her lips, the scorching temperature along with his breath attacked. Zhuo Qing was slightly shivering, Lou Xi Yan was holding her tighter, his kiss was gentle and soft in the past, but it was clearly infected with

lush and exceptionally passionate now.

Lightly kissing all the way across her neck, he then arrived at the back of the ear, nibbling Zhuo Qing's ear, his low voice as if it was a mellow spirit, intoxicating and puzzling sound echoed: "I want you."

The warm breath, the numb and low mumble in repetitions, made Zhuo Qing unable to help herself and shudder once again, she did not speak, her bright wrist moved up to Lou Xi Yan's neck, made herself to join deeper in his bosom.

Lou Xi Yan was encouraged, the fiery burning tongue went deeper and deeper, his hand dug into her clothing.....

"Prime Minister Lou! Prime Minister Lou!!"

Along with an ill sound of the knocking on the door echoed astonishingly, the two of them were startled, Lou Xi Yan was reluctant to part with the soft and slender waistline that he was holding with his hand. Pulling the side of the silk quilt to cover Zhuo Qing's body, striving to suppress his hysterical and restless breathing, Lou Xi Yan coldly groaned and said: "Who is it?"

The sound of a woman who was sobbing outside the door came through: "This servant, Xiao Lian, the Princess, she....."

Lou Xi Yan's mind was startled, urgently said: "How is the Princess?" She would not do something foolish, right!

"The Princess has a nightmare, she has waken up being scared, does not speak all along and is only shedding tears. The Princess's health is weak, and unable to withstand this sleepless night like this, if by any chance there is an unexpected misfortune, even if this slave dies ten thousand times, she can not afford it either ah, Prime Minister Lou, please come over to take a look, ok."

She urgently and pressingly came over and wailed accusingly because her family Princess had a nightmare?? Zhuo Qing suddenly gave a supercilious look, even though Lou Xi Yan did not say anything, his complexion was somewhat dark.

"Mo Bai." Lou Xi Yan lowly called out, but he did not hear any response, so he called out again: "Mo Bai."

“Yes.” Finally, Mo Bai’s cold voice came through from the outside of the door.

He was outside the door listening to some noises a moment ago, so he walked to the gate of the courtyard to guard, and forgot that Zhai Xing pavilion was connected with Lan Yue building!

Lou Xi Yan said with a cold voice: “Announce the Imperial physician.”

“Yes.”

Mo Bai left, the woman was still pestering outside the door, Lou Xi Yan impatiently said: “You return first to look after the Princess, ok.”

Xiao Lian did not have any opportunity to see Lou Xi Yan’s angry face, so she was still not afraid to continue to be long winded: “Prime Minister Lou, will you not go? The Princess is calling out your name all along, if she takes things too hard again.....”

“Get lost! Benxiang (again a third party saying for I, usually for an official to a servant) has already made the arrangement, when is it your turn to question my decision?!”

Xiao Lian who was outside the door was terribly frightened, nervously answered: “This servant asks to be excused.” She ran away to leave Lan Yue building all the way.

Zhuo Qing stared blankly, this was the first time he heard Xi Yan speaking like this, the handsome face because of lust was still somewhat flushed. The always evoking corner of his mouth seemed to freeze now, coldly and lightly pursed up lips, that gentle and soft eyes did not have the previous calm anymore, they were full of restlessness. Zhuo Qing broke into laughter, was this the so called the look of dissatisfied desire?!

Zhuo Qing did not know whether or not Yan Ru Xuan was deliberate, if she was, it was indeed timely..... Sitting straightforwardly from behind to hold Lou Xi Yan’s waist, Zhuo Qing said in a low voice: “Wait until the Imperial Physician comes, then you go to take a look, ok, just in case she tries to kill herself again, you will be in trouble.”

It was not because she was generous, it was actually because the other person’s noble identity, she did not want Lou Xi Yan to get into trouble because

of this.

Lou Xi Yan turned around, his face was still dark but his mood was very soft, helping her to lie down and putting the quilt to cover her, he said: "You sleep first, ok, I will come back really quickly."

Zhuo Qing helplessly nodded her head.

"Hold on!" Lou Xi Yan just got up, Zhuo Qing suddenly sat up and pulled his hand to bring him down. Lou Xi Yan did not understand, but still conveniently sat down.

Zhuo Qing's hands embraced his neck, bended forward and threw herself in his bosom.

Her lips was kissing his neck..... Biting him.

Lou Xi Yan melancholy groaned, the fragrant, soft and lovable's body was still in his bosom, a moment afterwards, Zhuo Qing sat up. She was satisfied to see Lou Xi Yan's neck that was covered by several conspicuous small marks from her kisses, her mood was rather good when she released her hands, then she waved towards Lou Xi Yan and said: "Very well, you can go."

From the beginning, he did not have any reaction, but when he looked at her crafty face, Lou Xi Yan already guessed what she was doing, lovingly shaking his head, Lou Xi Yan left Lan Yue building.

This girl, he still needed to attend the Imperial court tomorrow morning.....

Zhuo Qing was paralyzed on the bed, watching attentively at the light muslin curtain, Zhuo Qing was depressed, her first time trying to seduce unexpectedly failed! Although the main cause was not because of her, but she still blame her 'business was not cooked' (unfamiliar business as a saying that she's not familiar with this art of seduction)..... Next time, she would do a good preparation, it would surely make him wild and spurt nose bleeding, and he would not care even if the sky collapsed! Otherwise, she would let down of Qing Ling's 34D size!!

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Lou Xi Yan had not gone to Zhai Xing pavilion yet, he rather went there with the Imperial physician. Outside the door, once he arrived, he paid respect and

said: "Chen pays respect to the Princess."

Once hearing Lou Xi Yan's voice, Yan Ru Xuan who was originally lying on the bed and shedding her tears, immediately sat up, urgently said; "Yan Gege..... Come in quickly." He really came, this was a proof that he was still concerned about her!!

Inside the room, there were several candles on the table, the light ray was somewhat dusky, Lou Xi Yan and the Imperial physician entered the inside of the room. Lou Xi Yan only stood at the outside of the screen, and said towards the Imperial physician: "Take the Princess' pulse."

The Imperial physician bowed towards Lou Xi Yan to perform a courtesy, then went inside.

After the light muslin drapery was opened, there was a disappointed face, Yan Gege did not come in.

"Princess, Chen will offend."

Yan Ru Xuan expressionlessly extended her hand, the Imperial physician examined it for a good moment, then slowly got up.

Lou Xi Yan who was outside the screen, asked: "How is it?"

The Imperial physician withdrew all the way to the outside screen, then answered: "The Princess' blood and vital breath were insufficient, she was too anxious and worried, emotional issue, that was the reason she would have nightmare. Prime Minister Lou does not need to worry, Lao Chen will treat the Princess with some medicine, and meditation to nurse her health, then her health will recuperate slowly."

"You go and boil the medicine, ok." Lou Xi Yan finally felt relieved, when he saw her thin and week's appearance this morning, he was worried for her.

"Yes." The Imperial physician went out, there was only Xiao Lian inside the room, only him and Yan Ru Xuan, Lou Xi Yan slightly bowed from outside the screen, and said: "The time is not early anymore, Princess should rest early, Chen asks to be excused."

His speaking tone was just left, then he heard a low call out: "Yan Gege..... do

not go!”

The white silk silhouette hurriedly lifted open the curtain covering veil, not wearing any shoe, she stumbled to run to him all the way.

Her health was originally weak, plus her heart was worried, she almost ran to Lou Xi Yan’s front, Yan Ru Xuan’s feet were soft, and she almost fell down. Lou Xi Yan did not have any choice but to support her arms, and steady her body: “Be careful, Princess.”

Waiting until she stood firmly, Lou Xi Yan was just about to withdraw his hands, but Yan Ru Xuan grabbed his hands tightly.

Originally, she had a small face, she became thin now, and her face was not as big as a palm, her crying eyes were completely red bloodshot. Yan Ru Xuan’s heart was filled with affection and watching him, but unexpectedly she discovered some distinct red marks on his neck.....

Yan Ru Xuan’s heart was in pain, she knew these red marks, she had seen these marks on her Imperial sister in law (the Empress) and the other Imperial concubines. Her Imperial sister in law told her at that time, after the Imperial sister in law finished speaking, she also felt very embarrassed. But the Imperial sister in law said that these marks were left on a woman by a man, why did Yan Gege’s neck also have these marks? Thinking about that woman who was living together with Yan Gege, also her hateful manner in the afternoon, Yan Ru Xuan unconsciously and lightly bit her lips, that bad woman was not good enough for Yan Gege!!

Taking a deep breath, Yan Ru Xuan summoned her courage and said: “Xuan-er is really afraid, Yan Gege stays to accompany me, all right?”

Sian’s notes:

Boy oh boy.... I didn’t expect ZQ would do this. Hahahaha... I suppose that I shouldn’t be too surprised either. After all, the author implied that ZQ always has ‘yellow thought’ all the time. It was pretty embarrassing doing this translation. Thank goodness, the detail wasn’t too bad because the ‘action’ was interrupted. ☺ ☺ ☺ I hope that I don’t have to do anymore translation on this ‘yellow’ action in the future. Plus ZQ was intentionally leaving the marks on LXY’s necks for

YRX to see!!! Priceless!!!

LXY, if you say yes, I'm going to smack you. But I'm guessing that you will say a definite "NO." This naive or stupid girl needs to learn that just because someone is caring about her, it doesn't mean that person actually likes her. YRX is getting on my nerves at this point!!!

Too bad, YRX!!! Even if you think that ZQ isn't good enough for your Yan Gege, but your Yan Gege definitely thinks that she's perfect for him. Your opinion doesn't count!!!

# Record of Washed Grievances Chapter 78: Shattered Love

Another short chapter, only over 2,200 words. There was that #### signs again in this chapter so you have to interpret however you want to interpret when you see those signs. Btw, Dianachan, you have guessed correctly about the annoying Princess, but this isn't the end of her though...

This chapter was edited by Din2.

Yan Ru Xuan tightly grabbed his hand, a couple of clear tears fell on the wrists from her misty eyes, with her weak body, she was afraid that she would fall to the ground, Lou Xi Yan lightly sighed: "Fine."

Once she heard his consent, Yan Ru Xuan was excited, but soon after, her excited heart was frozen again because of his sentence.

"I will keep watch outside of the door to wait until you are asleep, then I will leave." His voice was still gentle as before, but the idea of his expression was so cruel. Her mood was too excited and too sad, and made Yan Ru Xuan's mood was completely out of control, tightly pulling his hand, her fingernails were pinching into the meat on his hand deeply. Yan Ru Xuan cried and called out: "Why do you not agree to stay behind for me? Can it be that asking you to stay is really so difficult? You just want to return to her side this much?!"

Lou Xi Yan was in pain, but only lightly frowned, he did not push her away, consolingly said: "Princess....."

Who would have thought, because of this appellation, Yan Ru Xuan was enraged one more time: "Do not call me Princess, you have called me Xuan-er since I was a child, why do you want to call me this distinct appellation now?!" He did not know, every time he called her Princess, she thought that he would be somewhat further and further away!

Softly and yet firmly moving away from her hand, Lou Xi Yan retreated one step, with a low voice, he answered: "Monarch is a monarch, the official is the

official, Chen should comply with this etiquette.” He just did not want her to have too many misunderstandings, he could only deliberately distance himself, unfortunately, she did not understand his intention!

“That is a lie! I definitely hear that you have called the Imperial elder brother’s name, why do you want to follow the etiquette with me only?!” Lou Xi Yan’s distance and indifference towards her finally made Yan Ru Xuan’s mental state that was not good originally to collapse completely. “I like you, do you really not feel it? Or you feel it, but you still want to hurt my feeling?”

Yan Ru Xuan’s eyes were wet with tears, she was extremely hysterical, Lou Xi Yan understood clearly, whatever words that he would say to her, she would not listen to any of it, and she was just draining her depressed feeling, nothing more.

“You speak ah .” Lou Xi Yan’s silent did not infuriate her again, it made her calm down slowly, unfortunately, the always dignified and elegant’s Yan Ru Xuan already sank into her own world, in her eyes, Lou Xi Yan’s silent towards her was impatience. At this moment, the red mark on his neck was like a fierce thin needle, the piercing entered her heart ferociously.

“Am I really not as good as her? Where is exactly she is better than me after all?!! Whatever she can give you, I can also give you!” Yan Ru Xuan was tightly biting her red lips, when Lou Xi Yan and Xiao Lan had not yet reacted, she already pulled apart the outside garment on her body, it rolled down on the ground conveniently. The pink undergarment could only cover up very little view, the bright and clean shoulder was exposed and because of that, she was shivering with cold.

Lou Xi Yan was in great alarm, hurriedly turned his body around, stood at the back of the screen, looked towards the palace maid who was lost in thought on the side. Lou Xi Yan expelled a breath and said: “What you are looking distracted for! Quickly help Princess to rest on the bed.”

Xiao Lian finally recovered, picked up the clothing that was on the ground, carelessly draped it on Yan Ru Xuan’s body who was already weeping in tears. Why was the Princess muddled like this ah , she was a noble Princess, if this was to spread out, Prime Minister Lou would resolutely not take her as wife either, her reputation and integrity would certainly be destroyed ah!

Lou Xi Yan absolutely did not think that the matter would develop to this degree, in his impression, Yan Ru Xuan was dignified, gentle and quiet, well mannered and polite, introverted and shy, how she could do this audacious thing to overstep her boundary!

“Chen asks to be excused first.” Lou Xi Yan took a step to leave, this time he would absolutely not stay inside the room anymore.

“Stop! If you go out of the door today, you will regret it.” Yan Ru Xuan shouted loudly, Lou Xi Yan’s reaction just now stabbed her deeply, the humiliation feeling made her somewhat incoherent in speech, she only knew that she would not let him to leave!!

Lou Xi Yan stopped his footsteps, completely stopped his footsteps, but the tall back, however, could not reveal any part that made people unable to ignore his cold thought, he was angry! Yan Ru Xuan was flustered and afraid, snuffled her nose and wiped the tears from her face, pleasingly said: “Yan Gege, do not get angry with me, all right, as long as you agree to stay, I will listen to anything that you say.”

“How is staying can change anything? I will not take you as a wife.” A cold and detached voice faintly answered, Yan Ru Xuan’s heart tightened again.

Deeply breathing, then pushing down the depressed and intolerable pain, Yan Ru Xuan asked: “Why?” She did not understand, was she so much lacking? Her chasing and admiration for the past years, just could not arouse his sympathy the slightest bit?!

Not waiting until Lou Xi Yan’s reply, Yan Ru Xuan seemed to mutter to herself again and said: “Marrying you is my dream from childhood, the first time I saw you, you were very attentive towards me, considerate, gentle and soft. From the very beginning, I really like you, in order for me to match up with you, I do not dare to neglect for one day, to be able to become your wife one day. Why can you not look at me clearly for one glance!! Why.....”

So, as it turned out, it was like this? Lou Xi Yan secretly sighed, if she let him know earlier the origin of her adoration, maybe she would not develop this to this degree, right. Lou Xi Yan answered: “Actually during that time, I really did not take your silk handkerchief because of you, it was because I had an argument

with the Second Prince, I could not bear to see his proud appearance, then I undertook the task. For the past many years, you and Xi Wu are the same in my heart, my sisters, I do not have any male female's love towards you."

Even though, telling the truth would make her suffer, but if he could make her to come to realize it herself, he would not be this repulsive.

'Younger sister.....' #####, every time ###. Funnily, remembering their first encounter, unexpectedly, it was because he was angry with Second elder brother that he played a trick?! Younger sister..... Only younger sister..... Yan Ru Xuan's heart #.

Tumbling to sit on the ground, her face did not have any smile, but the tears were flowing from her eyes, it was hard to predict if she would sustain it herself.

"Princess!" Xiao Lian hurriedly supported her shoulder, but simply could not support her already frail body. Both of them fell down together.

Yan Ru Xuan's eyes were desperately sorrowful to make Lou Xi Yan's heart was in pain, he really loved her dearly as his younger sister, today's result that was like this, maybe it was better that she would blame him for not being able to be heartless a little earlier!

Not daring to help her up this time, Lou Xi Yan could only console and said with a low voice: "Rest early, maybe when you wake up tomorrow, you will discover that you actually do not need me at all."

Towards Xiao Lian who was on the ground, he said this sentence: "Take care of the Princess carefully." Lou Xi Yan moved forward to leave.

The Princess who was in her bosom was not weeping anymore, her ice cold body was shivering, her expression was dreadfully emptied.

How much the Princess had done for him, she understood it the most, it could be because he said this sentence to her, or his smile, she would feel happy for several days. It could be because of his preference, she would practice the zither until all of her fingers were blistering. Practicing calligraphy until her hand could not hold anything, today, but he made the Princess to hurt like this!

Xiao Lian was glaring at Lou Xi Yan's direction, her eyes flashed through a trace

of dark color, this man was cold blooded and ruthless, he was absolutely did not fit with the Princess, darn him!

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“You have been lost in thought, what has happened?” Gu Yun was anxiously looking at Zhuo Qing who was preoccupied all day long, at dawn today, she made someone come to the General’s manor to ask for her to come over, and she said that there was a clue with regard to that piece of paper. They came out to look for the clue for half a day, but she was heavily worry all along, what had happened that made her think something throughly like this after all?

Zhuo Qing dispiritedly and listlessly answered: “Yan Ru Xuan returned to the Imperial palace at dawn today!”

“Ah?” Gu Yun stared blankly, soon after she said smilingly: “She came yesterday and left today? Your trick was really too amazing, ok.”

No mood to play a joke, Zhuo Qing answered: “It was not me, it was Lou Xi Yan. He went to her room last night, I did not know what they were talking about, then she returned to the palace at dawn today.” Her leaving was somewhat unexpected, she still made a solemn vow to marry Lou Xi Yan yesterday, but she suddenly left early today, how could this not make her suspicious!? What did Xi Yan say to her after all!?

Gu Yun was clearly thinking a lot simpler than her, smilingly said: “Maybe it was Lou Xi Yan who started the conversation with her, then she figured out that she would leave naturally.” He said that he did not like her, then she discreetly left so it was pretty normal! After all, who also wanted to be that indifferent person, ok!

“The problem is that she does not appear to be a person who will realize it easily.” Zhuo Qing did not believe that Yan Ru Xuan discreetly left, Gu Yun could think like this because she still did not understand the thinking method of the woman in this ancient time. When she spoke with Yan Ru Xuan yesterday, she obviously knew that Xi Yan did not love her, and yet she did not give up, and in the end, she would want to leave right away?!

Patting her shoulder, Gu Yun said with groundless fear and embarrassing smile: “Do not worry about it, at the minimum, the person has finally left, you

should set aside any future matter for Lou Xi Yan to deal with.”

Zhuo Qing turned over to give a supercilious look, discussing any emotional matter with Gu Yun would forever be useless!!

Gu Yun suddenly stopped her footsteps, Zhuo Qing hurriedly stopped also and raised her head, she could only see a bronze inscribed table that was hung over on the gate, there were five big characters on it that were astonishingly eye grabbing ‘The Country Guard General’s Manor’! (For simplicity, I will call this General’s manor going forward).

With scarlet color, upright and strong calligraphic style, this inscribed tablet on the gate could already make people in shocked, the front door was in crimson wood, with two separate ink cloud engraved in auspicious animal, the carving was extremely delicate and fine, especially that precious stones were embedded in the pair of two eyes, as if it was really glaring to look at you in general.

There were eight soldiers who were holding spears on their hands on both sides of the separation, the military personnels’ specific temperament were not comparable to the common bailiffs, respectful, strict and aggressive. Even though the entrance was wide opened, there was nobody who dared to enter it casually either!

Zhuo Qing frowned and asked: “Are you sure that you want to come here?”

“We had already visited his house and the other locations that he visited frequently. This place can also be considered as Yang Liu’s work place, having a visit to look at this place will always be right.” If the expression of that piece of paper was the most plain idea, then they have to think the most of the oral map first.

Shrugging her shoulder, Zhuo Qing smiled and said: “Fine, ok.”

She had already experienced the Prime Minister’s manor, she could also take a look conveniently what kind of a place was the General’s manor now!

Not knowing whether or not Su Ling was present?!

# Record of Washed Grievances Chapter 79: The General's Manor

Surprise!!! A bonus chapter since this was a short chapter (compared to most of the chapters in part 2 of this book)... A good thing it was a short chapter because my favorite guy is missing in action. Only over 1,400 words.

This chapter was edited by Din2.

Following Gu Yun together, the both of them entered the General's manor, when they entered the door, two rows of soldiers who were originally pointing the spears with their hands, put them backward and stood the spears on their side, solemnly and respectfully called out: "Madam."

Zhuo Qing almost fell down, casted a sidelong glance at the woman who pretended that she did not hear it, smilingly said: "Madam?" She was originally worried about Yun's situation at the General's manor, as it turned out, she was groundless in fears, her status was not low ah, she could make these gate keeper soldiers to call her Madam! Or was it Su Ling's inspiration? What good show did she miss out?!

Gu Yun coughed twice, perfunctorily answered: "The General's manor does not have any woman, it is not like you do not know it, they are calling it groundlessly."

Calling it groundlessly?! The meaning of these words were just because the General's manor did not have any woman, so any woman was a Madam? So, actually being a Madam at the General's manor was really easy! Zhuo Qing turned around to give her a supercilious look, she thought that she switched into this body, so her IQ would be inversely proportional to her chest measurement?!

Zhuo Qing snorted disdainfully without restraint, Gu Yun continued to pretend to be invisible, Zhuo Qing did not question her closely either, anyway, once they were inside the manor, she would know whether or not they called it out casually.

“Begin, ok.” The both of them stood at the main entrance, took out the piece of paper, faced the above mentioned direction, entered all the way. After walking for several corners, both of them appeared to have more confidence, because until now, the above mentioned direction was unexpectedly existed at the inside of the General’s manor, just liked in the front intersection, they could only turn right. And there was only a right turn passage, the direction on the paper was indeed to turn right, maybe this time, the direction that they went was really correct.

There were a couple of patrolling soldiers who walked directly to them, seeing Gu Yun, they immediately called out respectfully: “Madam.”

Gu Yun simply nodded her head softly to regard it as her response.

How many team were these? Slapping Gu Yun’s shoulder strongly, Zhuo Qing laughingly ridiculed her and said: “It is not too bad that you are still getting along here!” Zhuo Qing had no choice but to admire her, the guards at the General’s manor were really strict, she had not seen there was someone who was patrolling like this at the Prime Minister’s manor.

Gu Yun shook her fists, smilingly said: “Getting along is not bad, a place where they use military force to speak, I can adapt relatively easy.”

Zhuo Qing understood clearly: “So it is like this.....” But looking at her petite figure, her arm was thinner than a firewood, imagining that she was fighting with a group of cow, tall and big men, Zhuo Qing could not help to laugh heartily again: “Heavens, this joke was really good ah!”

Gu Yun could not stand it and quickly walked for several steps, she decided that she did not want to walk together with this woman whose IQ was corroded by romance.

Both of them were turning east and west, walking for quite a while, and still was at the inside of the General’s manor, Zhuo Qing sighed and said: “The General’s manor is quite big!” She did not understand, why was the General’s manor built like this complicated. The people who came in for the first time could lose their ways, was this in order to improve the safety factor?!

“En.” Bowing her head to look one glance to follow the next direction, Gu Yun’s eyebrows were knitted together tightly, she said: “If we keep walking to

this direction, ahead should be the practice work skill field.”

What was this expression, Zhuo Qing curiously smiled and said: “What kind of place is that? It makes your face to crease together like that?”

Gu Yun shrugged her shoulder to keep Zhuo Qing in suspense, then answered: “You can see it on your own when we arrive.”

After turning left, there was a small door, pushing the door open to look, it suddenly opened up to a wide panorama (everything became clear at once) in front of her eyes, but in front of the General’s headquarter, it still made Zhuo Qing unconsciously open her eyes big, she finally knew why Gu Yun’s complexion was strange a moment ago.

“Heaven..... This is extremely..... and alluringly hot, ok.....”

Not too far away, there was a wide open space, approximately four to five size of a soccer field in size, that big, it was densely packed, but no less than two thousands people who were standing extremely neat, ok. The main point was not this, the main point was that they were not wearing any upper garment at all, looking at a distant, shining white scene, wrong ah, being roasted in the sun all year round, it should be bronze color.

It was not that she had never seen naked men before, this image in front of her like this..... really shook whatever circumstance that she had ever seen before, but the sun was so hot, they did not feel unwell basking in the sun like this?!

Puzzling to look at Gu Yun who appeared to be used to this scenery for a long time, Zhuo Qing asked: “Are they doing army training? Why do they not train in the army camp?” Who would do army training at home?

“These are General Su’s elite troops, the practice work skill field is Su Ling’s secret training for the front line and to research the method of disposition of troops. If the drill is successful, then they will take it to the army camp to drill the soldiers.” She did not understand it at first either, afterwards, she heard Su Yu’s explanation, then she understood Su Ling’s intention.

Zhuo Qing with clear understanding, nodded her head: “No wonder, the General’s manor does not have any woman. Su Ling can become the country’s General like this even though he is still young, he indeed has the skill.” These

group of big men would be free to hover around the manor, so no woman in the manor would be better!

“Do you really admire his appearance?” She had seen Su Ling several times after all and already praised him, she still had not discovered what good thing that ice cold man had?!

Zhuo Qing generously answered: “I admit that my impression towards him is not bad, moreover, I think that you are very well matched with him, there is no harm to think it over, you will certainly not be a concubine, it is not too often that this kind of outstanding man does not have a wife yet.”

Here we go again!! Gu Yun coldly groaned: “I have never discovered that you are this foolish in the past, moreover, there is a tendency to have even more critical!”

Both hands on her chest, Zhuo Qing indifferently smiled and said: “There is nothing I can do, I am almost a married woman, I do not dare to guarantee what I will change into in the future.”

She was insane to keep continuing and discussing this lack of nutritional matter with Zhuo Qing! Bowing her head to watch at the map on her hand attentively, Gu Yun changed the subject immediately: “Go in, ok, if this is not the wrong place, the thing that we want to find must be inside.”

Zhuo Qing narrowed her eyes to look, she only saw one tall man who draped a clothing on his shoulder, while running towards their direction at a quick speed. A moment later, Zhuo Qing was finally able to see who was the person who came over, lowly smiled and said: “It is hard to imagine that the figure of that chick General is really not too bad!” Strong muscle, dark skin, and very attractive.

Gu Yun lifted up her head, Su Yu already arrived in front of them, even showering them down with his yelling: “Why did you come!! The practice work skill field does not allow any woman to enter or exit, you should go out quickly!!”

# Record of Washed Grievances Chapter 80: Accident

Sighing... I thought starting chapter 79, we would get a normal chapter but this was another long and boring chapter. But this chapter will set up another unpleasant experience that ZQ will have to encounter. For those of you who have read book 3, you know what I mean... Btw, chapters 81-83 are quite frustrating chapters so some of you may want to wait until those three chapters are posted. Over 3,300 words.

This chapter was edited by Din2.

## Qing Xuan Palace Hall

Outside the carved wooden window, there was a beautiful pear tree, it was a pity that the flowering season had already past, the only thing lacking was the beautiful pear blossom, but in between the emerald green leaves, one could see the small unripe fruit vaguely.

Inside the window, a beautiful shadow was leaning softly against the bedside, her pair of eyes were in a daze and watching attentively at the pear tree outside, the beautiful eyes, but one could not see whether she was sad, angry, resentful or pitiful. The pink light muslin inside the room was gentle and beautiful, along with the unhurried cool breeze was playing leisurely, but no one in the mood to enjoy it.

There were maids kneeling all over the place inside the room, both hands were carrying all kinds of delicious delicacies, but the woman was simply looking out at the outside of the window.

These had been how many days? After the Princess returned from the Prime Minister's manor, she was always like this, she did not cry or make any noise, and kept silent. Feeding her to eat anything and she would just eat them, she almost did not chew other stuffs and just swallowed them immediately. Xiao Lian did not dare to make her eat too many hard stuffs, she could only send ginseng soup to her mouth, choking with emotion, she said: "Princess, drink this ginseng soup, ok."

Yan Ru Xuan's eyes were always watching attentively at the outside window, her mouth was unconsciously opened up, swallowed the stuff down in a mouthful. Feeding for a few mouthfuls, Xiao Lian did not dare to feed again, if she was not mistaken, after several feedings, she would throw everything up soon. Her originally dainty's face, it was thin and only remained like a bone now.

Handing over the ginseng soup that was on her hand to the young palace maid behind her, Xiao Lian saw just now, that the Empress Dowager was standing behind them all along. Xiao Lian was startled and hurriedly knelt down to pay respect: "May the Empress Dowager have a thousand of good fortune and peace."

Paying no attention on the maid who was kneeling in the ground, Yang Zhi Lan lightly caressed Yan Ru Xuan's pale, skinny and shriveled face, she was unable to control her heartache. This one daughter of her was being taken care of for so many years, it really hurt her dearly that her look actually became so haggard like this!! As her mother, how could she not in pain!

Holding Yan Ru Xuan to her bosom, Yang Zhi Lan softly coaxed and said: "Xuan-er, what do you want after all? Only when you say, Imperial mother will surely think of a way to make you get it!"

Did she want to marry Lou Xi Yan? If this was the only thing that could make her to live, she would just force Lou Xi Yan to marry her!

Yan Ru Xuan did not seem to hear anything, she was still staring blankly outside the window, and did not react towards anyone or anything.

Looking at her appearance, Yang Zhi Lan lovingly shook her shoulder, lowly choking with sobs and she said: "How can you be this foolish ah! You are tormenting yourselves like this, being heart broken, this is only mother ah!"

No matter how she was shaking and slapping her, Yan Ru Xuan was still like a puppet and did not say any word, Yang Zhi Lan was holding her thin daughter to her bosom, who was looking at the slightly blue horizon outside, her tears were silently rolling.

Heavens, why did you do this to me?!

I already lost a son, did you still want me to lose a daughter?!

What kind of enmity did I have with the Lou's family after all, first, it was Lou Su Xin, now again, it was Lou Xi Yan!! I really hate ah.

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Xi Xia Palace Hall

There was no soul in sight inside of the palace hall, only Yang Zhi Lan was sitting upright on the master seat, Xiao Lian lowered her head, and was still standing on the side.

“What was the matter after all, Xuan-er only went to the Prime Minister's manor for one day, and she could change like this?!”

Yang Zhi Lan's complexion was gloomy and cold, her ordinarily kind appearance looked very different, Xiao Lian hurriedly knelt down on the floor, lowly sobbed and said: “The Empress Dowager, please give Princess some justice ah, Prime Minister Lou is bullying her intolerably!”

It was really Lou Xi Yan!! Yang Zhi Lan secretly clenched her teeth, her voice was still steady: “There is no harm in saying what you think.”

Xiao Lian secretly reckoned, it was all Lou Xi Yan, the Princess would change to look like this, she surely should not let him to have an easy time! But he was the country's Prime Minister, and also the East Empress Dowager's nephew, even if she wanted to accuse him to the Empress Dowager, how could the Empress Dowager suppose to handle it!

He treasured that Qing Ling so much, she wanted her to die! Let him know and feel this kind of pain that penetrated through his heart!

Planning a solution in her heart, Xiao Lian lowered her head, and cried while she said: “After you left, Prime Minister Lou was leading along Qing Ling to return to Lan Yue building, they obviously knew that the Princess was at Zhai Xing pavilion. With one look, one could see the lotus pond in front of Lan Yue building, but they still deliberately did not enter the room, they were kissing in the courtyard, the Princess had already been crying inside the room at that time. During the afternoon time, the Princess lowered her noble status and wanted to speak with Qing Ling and interacted with her nicely, who would have thought, that woman's manner was extremely nasty.”

Finished speaking, Xiao Lian deliberately stopped, carefully raised her head to

observe Yang Zhi Lan's complexion, her complexion was not pleased like before, but it did not change to become worst, only said with a cold voice: "Continue to speak."

Secretly clenching her teeth, was this Empress Dowager still not angry?! Working harder, Xiao Lian distorted the facts even more and wail accusingly and she said: "The Princess mentioned about getting married with Prime Minister Lou, not only Qing Ling talked maliciously at once, she still said that she would not share one husband with the Princess, because she would not allow Prime Minister to take a concubine, using Prime Minister's doting towards her as a weapon, she simply considered that everyone else was beneath her!! During the night when the Princess had a nightmare, she woke up crying incessantly, this servant went to Lan Yue building to ask Prime Minister Lou to come over to look, Qing Ling unexpectedly did not let Prime Minister Lou to come over. After waiting for a long time, Prime Minister Lou finally came, he still said that he would not marry the Princess, and only liked Qing Ling, ferociously hurt the Princess' heart, he would not say any harsh word to Princess before."

Finally, Xiao Lian simply threw herself on the ground, she was kowtowing while shouting: "Empress Dowager, it was all because of that woman who instigated and baffled Prime Minister Lou, and she still harmed and turned the Princess like this. Requesting the Empress Dowager to help the Princess with this grievance!!"

Yang Zhi Lan's eyes were slightly narrowed, Qing Ling did not look like a stupid person, could it be that she misjudged the person?! No matter what, Lou Xi Yan doted on her and one could see clearly that she should not live!

Even though, her heart was already decided, but Yang Zhi Lan simply said: "You have said that she relies on Lou Xi Yan's doting, and she does not pay any attention to anybody, if she has a contingency, Lou Xi Yan will be unlikely to take things lying down (letting it go)."

This young girl was actually very loyal to Xuan-er, but not sure if she could use her, she wanted to see if she had enough intelligent!

The meaning of the Empress Dowager's words were.....###, ###.

Replying: "There is no one who will conspire to murder her, but in this earth, there will be many unexpected accidents inevitably."

The corner of her mouth finally perked up with a trace of smiling expression, Yang Zhi Lan nodded her head, faintly smiled and said: “Yes ah, accident will always be hard to avoid.”

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## Zhai Xing Pavilion

After Yan Ru Xuan left, Zhuo Qing moved back to live at Zhai Xing pavilion. First, Lou Xi Yan would not let other people to gossip, and second, he always came back really late, she would already fall asleep, he was unwilling to wake her up with any noise. He was sleeping on the small bed by the side, Zhuo Qing did not have the heart to see his tall figure sleeping on that small bed, so she simply moved back.

Gu Yun went to annihilate the bandits, the case was also closed, she resumed her boring life again. She tried to sleep until late in the day everyday, her boring time would be shorter a little this way, but during her tiring life, she would always wake up before ten, just lying down on the soft bed, she did not wish to get up either, and only to stare at the drapery blankly.

What could she do during the day later on? Doing nothing all day except enjoying the flower, playing the chess, throwing herself to recite butterfly poetry?? Solely thinking it, Zhuo Qing could not help to laugh, living as a young lady of the house, not everybody could experience it, but she would not!!

Letting her imagination to run wildly in her mind, the sound of an urgent knock from the door scared her to jump!

Zhuo Qing frowned, the ordinary maid would absolutely not dare to knock on the door like this, Lou Xi Yan was also impossible, who would it be? Lifting open the quilt, Zhuo Qing walked to the side of the window, separated by a thin paper on the window, she looked towards the outside courtyard. There was a group of women who were standing inside the courtyard, there were trays on the hands of some of the women, but she could not see what stuffs. And it was unexpectedly headed by Lou Xi Wu?!

Zhuo Qing was puzzled, but she still opened the door and asked: “What are you doing first thing in the morning?”

Lou Xi Wu’s walked into the house, along with a dozen women who came in

together, Lou Xi Wu slightly raised her hand, several thirty something women came up immediately, they were busy pulling her clothing.

During her sleeping time, her original clothing was a thin unlined garment, they were pulling this, Zhuo Qing would practically be naked. Grabbing the sleeve piece of her clothing, Zhuo Qing urgently said: "Hey! What are you all doing!"

Several women simply did not care when she was shouting, they just continued to pull her clothes, Zhuo Qing was at the end of her patience, she pulled the wrists of the two women who were pulling her clothes, and said with a cold sound: "If you do not let go, I will punch you!!"

Both of the women were in pain, lowly shouted, the other women in the side retreated one step when they saw Zhuo Qing's anger's appearance, and did not dare to pull her clothes again.

Shaking off the hands of the two women, Zhuo Qing walked to the front of Lou Xi Wu, with an annoying face, she glared at her, and with a cold voice, she snorted: "Lou Xi Wu, it will be best that you give me an explanation, otherwise I will be rude to you!"

Lou Xi Wu swallowed a mouthful of saliva, slightly retreated one step, but she still self confidently answered: "I came today for two matters! First, you were not home this past two days, but elder brother already announced publicly at home that he wanted to marry you. I also did not know what he was anxious about, in short, the time was tight, and I was very unlucky that elder brother wanted me to arrange and prepare your wedding dress." She did not want to come to provoke her either ah, this matter would be more suitable for second mother to do, right! But elder brother just gave this matter for her to do, he also only gave her one month time.

She was by no mean trying to cause any trouble, who would have thought that Qing Ling's temperament was this big!

Pointing at those several women who were scared and retreating in the side a moment ago, Lou Xi Wu said: "They are the best embroidery workers at the thousand silk workshop, they want to take your measurements just now. They have to rush to make a collection of the member of the royal family wedding ceremonial robes for you within one month, so you will be better to cooperate.

Otherwise, if they can not finish it on time, there will be many unlucky people at that time!”

Zhuo Qing stared blankly, she only heard two days ago that Lou Xi Yan wanted to get married immediately, she still thought that he was cracking jokes. At the minimum, they should wait until he finished getting busy with the celebration matter to begin the preparation, right. Looking at this attitude, he wanted to get married before the celebration?!

Looking at Zhuo Qing who was silent, Lou Xi Wu conveniently said about the second matter: “There are several collections of good clothes here, I need you to try them on, and pick a collection, we will enter the Imperial palace to attend a banquet this afternoon.”

Sweeping one glance at the trays where layer and layer of clothes were on, also there were matching bright and multicolored type of pearls on the side, Zhuo Qing did not understand and asked: “Why do I want to enter the Imperial palace?”

“The Empress Dowager mentioned your name in the Imperial decree, so you must go.” Second mother was still angry for a long time due to that matter, because she had never had the opportunity to enter the Imperial palace until today, and she saw her stomping on her feet as she was feeling so unhappy.

Zhuo Qing faintly felt uneasy, why would the Empress Dowager summon her to enter the Imperial palace for no cause or reason, was this related to Yan Ru Xuan’s concern? Maybe Lou Xi Yan knew something, so he wanted to get married urgently?

Getting stuck into her own train of thought again, and waiting for Zhuo Qing to recover, those several women were already assisting swiftly to take her measurements, while Lou Xi Wu self-servingly picked up those jewelries for the clothing and compared them on her body.

She did not catch on Zhuo Qing who was not even thinking, one comparison on her body, Zhuo Qing turned around immediately and have a supercilious look. Those clothes had layers upon layers of garments, there were several layers inside and outside, this hot day, could they let a person live wearing them?!

Then, there was still that long skirt that was falling on the ground, one could

sweep the floor immediately, right!

Casted sidelong glances at Lou Xi Wu's head above, she estimated that the gold jadeite tassels' hair decoration could weigh about ten catties (one catty equals to 0.5 kg & 1 kg equals to 2.2 lbs). That lake blue color with golden silk embroidery cheong sam from head to toe was so excessive, Zhuo Qing lowly laughed and said: "Entering the Imperial palace is alright, but why do I want to dress like a Christmas tree!? It is not like I have not entered the palace before, take away all of these stuffs, I have some dress to wear."

Lou Xi Wu did not understand what Christmas tree was, but she heard Zhuo Qing's mockery on her dress, grabbing the long golden skirt and squeezing it on Zhuo Qing's hands, Lou Xi Wu snorted and said: "Entering the palace this time is not the same, for my elder brother and the Prime Minister manor's reputations, you must wear them!"

Lou Xi Wu was acting somewhat strange today, Zhuo Qing did not want to quarrel with her either, immediately said: "Explain clearly."

Sitting down on the wood chair on the side, Lou Xi Wu was somewhat excited and she said: "Qiong Yue's three years prayer celebration is not only Qiong Yue's grand occasion, it is also the six countries' grand occasion, at that time, each country's merchants, high officials and noble people, important court ministers, even the emperor's relatives, will all come to express good wishes to Qiong Yue, I can not say for sure if you will be able to see your friends from Hao Yue."

Zhuo Qing frowned: "Say what the important point is!" Making her to listen to her chat idly like this, when would it be finished!

Flinging aside and curling her lips, Lou Xi Wu answered: "The important point is the celebration can not do without performance naturally, after each country appointment arrives, they all are not just simple and ordinary people. Qiong Yue, as the head of the six countries, there can not be any person who is lacking in manners in front of those people, it is certainly important to choose the women from Qiong Yue with good appearance and the best talents who will offer the art skills. The prestigious families, the daughters of the aristocratic families will be the first choices, this is the goal to go to the Imperial banquet this time, in order for the celebration to have an absolute safe performance, both of the Empress

Dowagers will choose ten famous talented and good looking young ladies as reserves.”

As it turned out, they were just going to choose the elegant women this afternoon! Zhuo Qing mockingly laughed at herself and said: “What does this have any relation to me?” Speaking about her appearance, she was disfigured, speaking about talent, she only likes to do autopsy. She did not have any talent that she could show off, what did she go there for?!

Even though Lou Xi Wu was also puzzled that the Empress Dowager made Qing Ling to go, but the Imperial decree was already heard, she did not have any choice. Taking the jadeite jade pearl and hanging it on Zhuo Qing’s neck, Lou Xi Wu smilingly said: “You are the Lou’s family wife now, that is your relation with going to the palace, since the Empress Dowager appoints you to go, that is also your relation.”

“Sh\*\*!” Zhuo Qing lowly cursed.

“What do you mean?” She said several terms that she did not understand today, Lou Xi Wu was really curious.

Zhuo Qing stared at the heavy and magnificent pearls dress, powerlessly answered: “You do not want to know!!”

She really wanted to decorate herself like a Christmas tree?! NO!

Tossing the clothes back to Lou Xi Wu, Zhuo Qing lightly raised her eyebrows, smilingly said: “I can wear a dress, but I will have the final say on what kind of dress!”

# Record of Washed Grievances Chapter 81: Danger Sprang Up All Around

Another never ending chapter... At least, that was how I felt when I was doing this translation... LXY should show up in the next chapter assuming the author did not drag this whole scene until chapter 83. Over 3,475 words.

Disclaimer: translating painting was also horrendous...

This chapter was edited by Din2.

## Imperial Garden

The jade color green shade (of a tree), the cluster of bushes were short, this was Zhuo Qing's first impression towards the splendid Imperial garden, but a moment afterwards, she became somewhat dizzy. She finally knew why Lou Xi Wu wanted to decorate herself like a Christmas tree, because if you dressed in a silk clothing at this time, then one would really look very different!

Zhuo Qing was secretly glad, fortunately, she only partially cut the long cheongsam skirt, and only wore three layers of skirt from the original five layers, she removed half of the golden hairpins that were on her head, except for the golden head ornament, jadeite bracelet and dangling tassels. But she did not lack anything from these basic elements, strictly speaking, her whole body could not be regarded as too obtrusive!!

The more she went inside, the more she startingly sighed, the room was filled with colorful brocade dresses, pearls and gold ornaments, dazzling her, it could even be said there was plump, swallow and thin women in front of her, beautiful women as cloud, every one of them was as delicate as a flower. But squinting her eyes, Zhuo Qing nevertheless felt like she was mistreated!

She really agreed to that sentence about many confusing eyes, she almost could not see clearly what their appearances were, naturally there were some women who were similar like her, the women whose complexions were not pleased, she estimated that this was due to various kind of reasons.

Zhuo Qing was following behind Lou Xi Wu, lowering her head to move towards the assigned place.

In the middle of the garden, an empty and small piece of an open space, both sides had about five to six rows of stools. Zhuo Qing and Lou Xi Wu were seated on the right side of the first row, Zhuo Qing closed her eyes to rest once she was seated, what the eyes didn't see, the heart didn't grieve over it! (ZQ pretended to sleep and tried to ignore everybody). Automatically ignoring to hear the low laughter from a group of women who were exchanging conventional greetings by her side, soon, the voices around here were quiet all of a sudden. Zhuo Qing opened her eyes, and saw that the East and West Empress Dowagers were walking with the escort from a group of the palace eunuchs and maids.

In today's occasion, both of them adorned themselves with utmost care, but in comparison, Yang Zhi Lan's dress was still relatively plain and simple. Her face still had a benevolent smile, and the dress on Lou Su Xin's body was an extreme dark red changpao, the golden silk belt appeared to be vivid and through on her good figure, a string of green jade pearls was on her neck. It really matched with her arrogant look and really still made people not to dare to watch intently.

Both of them were seated at the masters seats in the middle of the garden, all of the people were orderly half kneeling to salute and say: "Pay respect to both the Imperial palace's Empress Dowagers, may the Empress Dowagers have good fortune and peace."

Zhuo Qing slowly half squatting her body down, Lou Su Xin's arrogant voice faintly echoed: "You may rise, ok."

"Thank you Empress Dowager."

After the salutation, each family's young lady returned to their seats, calmly lowering their heads, gentle, refined and graceful, it was really in contrast with the distinct noise from a moment ago. Zhuo Qing sniggered, she also lowered her head, and continued to close her eyes to rest.

Yang Zhi Lan looked towards Lou Su Xin, after seeing that she lightly nodded afterwards, still smiling and saying at the same time: "Today's invitation to all of you, young ladies, madams, to enter the Imperial palace to attend a banquet, is to select the talented and good looking, women who will have both integrity and

talent at the celebration's talent show. With regards to this, it can be say that this is Qiong Yue's credibility matter, Aijia will not say anymore, using the old established standard, you can do the four arts (zither, go, calligraphy, painting), poetry, singing and dancing, the highest skill will be victorious."

"Let us start with the zither skill, ok, which young lady will come first?" Yang Zhi Lan finished speaking, with a smile on her face, she swept everybody's eyes with a glance, the women were still shy timidly and lowering their heads, whispering, nobody came out.

Yang Zhi Lan gently smiled, and said: "Everyone modestly declines like this, then Aijia will just appoint to one person to throw a brick to attract a jade (she's offering a humble remark so the young ladies will give their opinion), ok."

"Aijia has heard that the Qing family sisters' reputations are outstanding within the six countries, during the celebration three years ago, Hao Yue put forward a paradise landscape picture, a splendid object, it was reportedly to be drawn by the the three young ladies. Two of the ladies are in the Imperial palace today, it will be better to throw a brick to attract a jade at the Qing's family eldest daughter, Qing Ling to do these refined activities (regarding literature, paintings, etc), what does everyone think?" Finished speaking, she still looked towards Zhuo Qing with an incomparable concern.

The Imperial concubines who were sitting on the side also agreed hurriedly and said: "This is extremely fine, Chenqie (third party calling for concubines when they speak to emperor or empress dowager or empress) always hear from some people that the zither skill of the Qing's family eldest daughter is extremely high. Playing for two to three days and the sound still lingered on, the people will praise without ceasing after listening to it, there is finally an opportunity to increase our knowledge today."

Originally Zhuo Qing was still concerned about her own matter by closing her eyes to rest, she suddenly opened her eyes, and looked at Yang Zhi Lan, both of their expressions met, Yang Zhi Lan still had a loving smile, Zhuo Qing's expression was actually dark, was this her purpose? Making her like a fool in front of everyone, this was considered taking a revenge for her daughter?!

Both of their expressions were in confrontation, Yang Zhi Lan was smiling all

along, with a clear sound, she called out: "Someone, prepare the zither."

"Hold on." Zhuo Qing stood up, it would not be this easy to make a fool of herself.

Performing a lady like courtesy by bending over, Zhuo Qing raised her head, then with a grievance face and eyes filled with melancholy, she answered with a low voice: "Many thanks to everybody's love, but unfortunately, I have suffered injury on my way to come to Qiong Yue, I can only remember a lot of things vaguely. Those melodies that I was familiar before, I could not remember any of it now. I am afraid that I will make everybody feel disappointed today." Being together with Lou Xi Yan for this long time, she just looked at him, she had also learned a lot on how to pretend, how could this be difficult?!

Yang Zhi Lan barely wanted to open her mouth, Zhuo Qing pulled out another unfathomable mystery again, and continued to say: "But I know that Xi Wu's zither skill is definitely not beneath my skill. She was practicing zither with Su Mu Feng a few days ago and he spoke about Xi Wu's zither skill, and he also praised her skill. It will be better to let Xi Wu be the person to throw a brick to attract a jade, she will surely not let all of you to be disappointed."

Lou Xi Wu was surprised at first, after she reacted back, she ferociously pinched Zhuo Qing's waist, this woman really dared to speak like this!! When did she and Su Gongzi speak about the zither skill, when did Su Gongzi praise her skill?! Obviously, the one whom she was referring to did not know it! Unexpectedly, she still had a very familiar look!

Zhuo Qing was in pain, but she still could not show anything, this darn girl was very fierce, she did this for her sake, if maybe, she would be chosen to play for the esteemed guests at the celebration, and her social status would rise highly at that time.

"Oh?" Yang Zhi Lan looked towards Lou Su Xin who was by her side, smilingly said: "Elder sister, unexpectedly, Xi Wu's zither skill has a breakthrough after all these years, since it is this way, just let Xi Wu to play one song, ok."

Lou Su Xin who always had an arrogant face finally was somewhat at ease, she quietly laughed and said towards Lou Xi Wu: "Xi Wu, then, you play one song, ok."

“Yes.” The matter was already like this, besides bracing herself to do it, Lou Xi Wu did not have any other way either.

Zhuo Qing secretly relaxed, Lou Su Xin’s attitude towards Lou Xi Wu was gentle like this, it seemed that she really liked her. She did not need to be anxious for Xi Wu, even if the performance failed, nobody would dare to do anything to the Empress Dowager’s niece, right!

Barely wanting to sit down, however, Yang Zhi Lan was not ready to let her off either, with a deliberate soft voice, she smiled and said: “But only listening to the music is rather monotonous, Ling-er does not remember the melody, but can always remember to write characters, right. That paradise landscape painting from last time is still at the Imperial study room, Ling-er can do another one and it is good to let them increase their knowledges.”

This clearly some hidden derogatory words, listening to these, Zhuo Qing was somewhat angry, Yang Zhi Lan was deliberately after her with a sharpen knife, right!

Getting up one more time, Zhuo Qing’s complexion was clearly dark: “I .....

Zhuo Qing only said this one word, she was already interrupted by a clear and cold sound of a woman: “Answering to Empress Dowager, normally, we, sisters, like to paint to amuse ourselves cheerfully, just let Chenqie and elder sister to paint together for everybody today, Chenqie is not sure if it is possible or not.”

Zhuo Qing looked up to see, the person who spoke was Qing Feng, she was unexpectedly here also, but she was sitting across with a group of women. She did not even look carefully, and did not find that it was strange, but painting together? Was she harming her or helping her?! Could you regard grinding the ink stick as painting?!

Yang Zhi Lan looked towards Lou Su Xin one more time, and smilingly asked: “What does elder sister think of this?” Fine, she did not have to make things difficult for her even more, the conclusion would be the same in a moment anyway.

Zhuo Qing did not have Lou Xi Wu’s good luck, Lou Su Xin casted a sidelong glance at her, with a cold voice, she said: “This is also fine, Aijia wants to see it also, what wonderful talents that the Qing family’s sisters have after all.” She

really wanted to see what was so special about the woman whom Xi Yan kept going to the Imperial palace to request for a marriage with her over and over again.

Pointing ahead at the pond that the gorgeous and lovable lotus started to open, Yang Zhi Lan smilingly said: “Elder sister, it is exactly the time for the lotus to bloom at the moment, it will be better to let them paint by the side of the lotus pond, playing the zither, the lovable flowers will conform together with the beauties, is it not a wonderful thing?”

“It is also good.” Lou Su Xin indifferently said: “Someone comes, prepare the tools to paint.”

“Yes.”

Soon, several agile palace eunuchs already put a big table and moved it by the side of the lotus pond, the back of the table was a slab to support the platform, this desk was fortunately above the lotus pond. Standing here to appreciate the flowers, it just seemed like being surrounded by the flowering shrubs, and was really beautiful.

It was a pity, Zhuo Qing did not have the mood to appreciate the flowers at the moment, she said towards Qing Feng who was standing beside her confidently and she urgently said: “I really can not paint!!” She was not Qing Ling, and did not understand anything about painting ah!

Smiling confidently, Qing Feng answered: “It does not matter, wait until I blend some good colors, you just use the writing brush to draw several circles on the paper, it will be good.”

“Draw several circles?” Zhuo Qing stared blankly, very quickly asked again: “How big? How many? Do you want round circles or ovals? Where will be the specific position?!” If it was merely drawing circles, she could still accomplish it, but she would have to trouble her to tell her about the specific of the circles! She was really good at geometry subject all together!

Qing Feng answered without thinking: “Whatever you like.”

“Ah?!” Zhuo Qing felt stupid, how did she want to draw them?

She was still in depression, the ink stick on the table was already grounded

properly, the paper was also spread out properly, the palace eunuchs retreated to the side, respectfully said: “The tools for painting are already ready, these two mistresses, please start.”

Zhuo Qing was standing by Qing Feng’s side, she could only see her skillfully held the ink stick and poured half of it inside the porcelain dish on the side, then carefully transferred the clear water in it, a moment afterwards, Qing Feng said: “Start, ok.”

The big piece of fine writing paper was spread out in front of her eyes, Zhuo Qing really had this mixed feelings (not knowing whether to laugh or cry), where to start?! If she had known earlier, that she would encounter this kind of adventure, she would consider to learn the calligraphy and Chinese arts with her mother before, it was unlikely to go so far now and she did not know where to draw the circles!

Let it be, Qing Feng did not worry at all, what should she worry about, deeply breathing, Zhuo Qing drew one circle larger than a fist on the paper. Qing Feng transferred the ink stick that was somewhat light in color, leaving behind a shallow color impression on the white paper. Zhuo Qing looked at Qing Feng one glance, her expression was the same as before, she just prepared the red color cinnabar, she estimated that she wanted to draw lotus.

Since she did not have any opinion, Zhuo Qing did not care either, boldly drawing ten circles on the paper, big and small circles, after painting the circles, Zhuo Qing did not know what to write, the white paper that she played with was in complete disorder.....

At this time, Qing Feng seemed to be ready, she picked up a comparatively thin brush, in lightning speed, those 7-8 random circles that were drawn with the writing brush, one leaf lotus unexpectedly appeared quickly. Her movement was quick, as if there were several brushes, the original numerous and disorderly composition became a realistic lotus on the pond, it was extremely awesome!

Just when Zhuo Qing started to admire, she heard a clear, exquisite and melodious’ zither sound echoing, Zhuo Qing lifted her head up, not a distance ahead, Lou Xi Wu’s naturally and unrestrainedly sat in front of the zither. Her fine and long fingers were on the strings smoothly playing the zither, the light

and quick melody echoed within the Imperial garden, this girl's zither skill was really not bad!

“Done.”

Zhuo Qing was still admiring Lou Xi Wu's zither sound, Qing Feng's cold voice echoed lowly.

Done!? So quick, the time that she used was almost the same as when she drew the circles!

Bowing her head again, Zhuo Qing was staring blankly on the painting completely, the painting that was in front of her was a refined ink and wash painting composition, it only used the deep or shallow colors of black, only the lotus leaves and the water on the lake were expressed in great detail. The cinnabar (some kind of chemical that can make a red color) set off some contrast colors, the complete painting seemed to split the new lotus at the seam, it reflected with the color of ink stick, and it looked to be soft pink, fresh and clean. The most amazing thing was the lotus leaves, the lotus petals seemed to have condensation of water droplets, the whole painting seemed to show a hint of moisture, haziness was enveloping the lotus leaves with pink color, similar to when the new lotus started to bloom after the rain!

The upper left corner of the painting still had several small words 'The hidden morning dew, The human world who was jealous', the calligraphy style was graceful, and the technique was smooth and easy.

How could this even possible, this short period of time, Zhuo Qing did not dare to believe, this was the piece of paper that she was being tormented a moment ago!

She regarded this as her knowledge and experience, what a real talented girl.

Qing Feng slowly laid down the writing brush, then she pulled Zhuo Qing to retreat one step, she let those several palace eunuchs whose heads were down and calmly stood aside while they lifted the wooden table to head towards the direction of the Empress Dowagers.

The painting that was just drawn a moment ago, the paper was extremely soft, so they could not hold it up, Lou Su Xin and Yang Zhi Lan got up to the direction

of the long table. Looking at the painting, both of their eyes were bright. Lou Su Xin was rarely boastful and she said: “As expected, the name is not in vain (a well deserved reputation)!”

This kind of art work, even if a specialist learned to paint, it would take about 30-50 years of skill, not all of them could come out of the painting!

Yang Zhi Lan also nodded her head and said: “Imperial concubine Qing, come here to give us the explanation of the meaning of the verse, ok.”

“Yes.” Qing Feng walked slowly to go, Zhuo Qing was standing on the wooden stage and breathing some fresh air, if she could, she would really wish to leave early.

Looking that Qing Feng had walked to come over, Yang Zhi Lan seamlessly swept one glance at the palace maid who was always standing behind her, the palace maid slowly retreated to go out.

Walking to the front of the painting, Qing Feng slightly lifted her head, proudly smiled, with a clear voice, she said: “The meaning is actually very easy, the lotus’ noble and virtuous is unflinching in righteousness, it will not be infringed in the impurity of the secular world, it is precisely because of this quality, that the common people are also jealous.”

“Very well spoken.” Lou Su Xin praised and nodded her head, she really liked a woman who was proud and arrogant!

The phrasing sound was continuous over there, Zhuo Qing was simply stretching her waist lazily, the women in the ancient time were really not easy, the four arts, not a single one was dispensable ah!

Standing on the side of the wooden stage, Zhuo Qing was sighing, while stroking the lotus leaves conveniently, suddenly, Zhuo Qing felt something under her feet, the side of her ears heard a sound of the breaking apart of the wood. She did not have enough time to react either, the wooden stage was unexpectedly caved in and was unstable, then Zhuo Qing fell into the lotus pond.....

Sian’s notes:

It's time for another scream towards this author!!!! I can't believe this whole darn chapter is so annoyingly unnecessary (at least the majority part of it). I couldn't believe that we will have to wait for the next chapter to get to the point of this whole scam that Yang Zhi Lan is trying to do with ZQ. Grrrrrrr...

On another note, hahahahaha... This lovely forensic investigator actually needs more detail instructions instead of just telling her to draw several circles so Qing Feng can do the rest. I just love these two "sisters." Drawings circles for ZQ equals to geometry.

# Record of Washed Grievances Chapter 82: Hero To The Rescue

Wohooo... From the title, we know who's coming to rescue his madam... Oh my gosh, but this whole chapter did not have ZQ's rescue until a few paragraphs towards the end. I should have known it but at least there's our favorite guy in this chapter as our consolation. This is a very very frustrating chapter... I feel like smacking both the EDs. Over 3,600 words.

This chapter was edited by Din2.

## Imperial Study Room

On the long huge table, there were a high stack of reports, the celebration would arrive soon, each ministry submitted more and more reports to the Emperor. He made Su Ling to recover the stolen gold urgently like this, it was really an urgent need to get the silver taels for the state treasury. Even if there was no gold yet, Qiong Yue could also manage to do a prestige and large celebration, but if the treasury could retrieve the stolen gold, it would be better.

Taking one of the reports with his hand to read through completely, Yan Hong Tian finally looked towards Lou Xi Yan who was sitting on the side and sipping tea leisurely, he, himself was busy to death, but he still had a carefree emotion. His complexion was dark, Yan Hong Tian coldly groaned and said: "How is the preparation for the celebration?"

Putting down the tea, Lou Xi Yan, faintly smiled, he ignored Yan Hong Tian's cold face, and unhurriedly answered: "Very smooth, the Ministry of Revenue and Ministry of Work has already assembled and prepared the necessary expenses for the celebration properly, this year's celebration will surely be even more magnificent than the one from three years ago. But when each country diplomatic envoy gathers at that time, the various regions' merchants from prominent families will also enter the capital city to make pilgrimage, the inside of the capital city will surely have a mixed of people. Chen and the Ministry of Justice will negotiate to deploy the armed forces quickly with the Ministry of

War, in order to guarantee that there is nothing wrong during that time.”

“Good, you will lead on this matter, ok! Make the preparation.”

Lou Xi Yan’s matters were surely not sufficient enough, not enough chaos, looking at his methodically arranged and composed appearance, Yan Hong Tian was angry without any reason, even though he was always like this for so many years in the past, it was all like this!

“Yes.” Lou Xi Yan flatly gave his consent, and he still had an appearance that he would be able to handle any matter.

Yan Hong Tian lightly frowned, he could not be this rejuvenated like this in the past, could it be that one was in high spirits when one was involved in a happy situation? Watching attentively at Lou Xi Yan, Yan Hong Tian conscientiously asked: “You really want to marry Qing Ling as your official wife, and do not intent to take any concubine?”

Lou Xi Yan clearly smiling, he nodded his head and answered: “En.”

“She is worth it?” Actually, sometimes it was not the woman’s problem, but it was rather the problem of the balance in benefits (somebody’s interest), there were many women inside the harem, he did not even remember their appearances, but they represented their own clans, and powers. Political marriage, strictly speaking, it was not insignificant towards a man’s official career!

For Qing Ling, Xi Yan was really willing to sacrifice this much?!

Lou Xi Yan understood his meaning, but he still only smiled faintly, tranquilly said: “I think it is worth it, definitely worth it.”

For the past few days, he was always busy taming Qing Feng, that young wildcat, inattentive, it appeared that he let Xi Yan in making the decisive opportunity related to Qing Ling, he also missed a lot of good shows. Looking out the window, the warm summer time, brightly colored decorations, Yan Hong Tian’s eyes flashed through one trace of craftiness, smilingly said: “In the Imperial garden today, there are the talented and good looking women from the capital city, the virtuous, skilled and fragrant of each family’s daughter, do you want to choose another one?”

Lou Xi Yan was gentle as before and he answered: “Thanking the Emperor, Chen does not need to choose another one.”

Walking down from the dragon throne, Yan Hong Tian walked to the side of Lou Xi Yan, he asked one more time: “Really not going?”

Slightly bowing to salute, Lou Xi Yan immediately said: “Chen will send the Emperor off respectfully.”

Yan Hong Tian deliberately gave a pity face and shook his head, going outside through the door, while he was clicking his tongue to sigh and say: “Very well, ok, I hear that Ling-er also comes, Zhen has not seen her for quite a while, and rather misses her.”

Lou Xi Yan’s back was stiffed, he was so busy and had been leaving early and returning late these past few days, he simply did not know what she was doing, did she really come? If it was real..... Thinking a moment ago when Yan Hong Tian’s eyes flashed through that #, (again you have to interpret LXY’s thinking in this moment. He was prob swearing at YHT for teasing him), Lou Xi Yan resigned to his fate and lowly sighed, and followed Yan Hong Tian’s back, he said: “Chen will still accompany the Emperor to go along, ok.”

Looking behind at Lou Xi Yan who was seldom following him obediently, Yan Hong Tian’s mood was good and he laughed heartily, maybe letting Qing Ling to have Lou Xi Yan was not a bad thing after all. He could tease and mock Xi Yan as a bargaining chip, who made Xi Yan to seem able to handle any matter entirely with ease, having this no worry appearance, a person really could not be that perfect!

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“Ah—.” Lou Xi Wu who was sitting on the wooden front stage playing instrument heard the sound of the wooden stage collapsed, she subconsciously shouted out, when she lifted her head, she happened to see Qing Ling fell in the lotus pond.

“Qing Ling!!” Running several steps, Lou Xi Wu could not swim, also did not dare to walk on that unstable wooden stage, she could only stand and anxiously stare by the side of the lotus pond that was filled with the leaves, while she was shouting: “Help ah! Qing Ling, she fell into the lotus pond!”

A group of women in the middle of the park also heard the sound of the collapse a moment ago, when they came over to react, they just saw Lou Xi Wu was standing at the front of the wooden stage, stretching her neck to stare at the lake front, her anxious mouth was shouting.

Hearing her shouting, Qing Feng hurriedly looked towards the vicinity of the wooden stage, Qing Ling's reflection was nowhere to be found.

"Elder sister!" Her heart raised to her throat all of a sudden, Qing Feng pulled up her skirt to run towards the lake. But her arms were pulled tightly by some people, as it turned out, several palace maids who were standing by the side of the Empress Dowager were holding her up at the same time. They pulled her and not letting her to walk a step, her mouth was still nervously and with deeply concern, she said: "Imperial concubine Qing, you have a ten thousand gold body, you need to be careful with your health, you can not go ah!"

"Let go off my hands!!" Qing Feng disregarded her life and struggled to get free, unable to deal with the tearing pain on her arms, she was flustered and worry, it made her who was always icily arrogant, but could not help to have tears in her eyes. There was no wise and virtuous woman's bearing anymore, only madly struggling to get free and shouting: "Get out of my way! My elder sister can not swim, you all let go off my hands quickly! Let go off my hands!!"

Yang Zhi Lan's eyes flashed through a barely trace of sneer, it was best that she could not swim, even if she could swim, it would be useless also! Pretending to get angry and pointing at several palace eunuchs who were by her side, Yang Zhi Lan shouted: "What are you staring blankly for, quickly save the person ah!"

"Yes." Four palace eunuchs ran to the lakeside, immediately jumped into the pool.

Lou Su Xin slightly got angry and knitted her brows, how could a good wooden stage collapse?! Looking that there were people who were already going down to save the person, she did not say anything either. She simply sat coldly on the master seat, looking at the flower pond in front of her.

Actually, after Zhuo Qing fell into the water, it was not anything that they were imagining in fear, or being in danger, because she could swim. Moreover, when she was attended school before, she was nevertheless a member of the school

swimming team, so besides the collapse of the wooden stage and the somewhat frenetic situation outside, she was entirely not bad.

The worst part of the wooden stage collapsing was where her feet were standing at that time, after she fell down, she went straight into the water until she was below the wooden stage that was not falling down yet. The heavy skirt drenched heavier afterwards, the top of the wooden board was pushing her down all along, she was covered all over by the lotus leaves, it was very difficult for Zhuo Qing to swing her arms.

She could hear Lou Xi Wu who was shouting for people to save her, she also wanted to response that she was actually good, but to no avail as the circumstance was very messy, the water would pour in to her mouth, Zhuo Qing could only think of a way to go out first.

Using her feet to maintain her balance, Zhuo Qing rapidly undid her belt to take off the most outer layer of the skirt, she immediately felt a lot lighter. She kept moving forwards all the way, groping things around her, suddenly, she did not know what thing that her feet kicked, something stabbed her fiercely and she was in pain. She clenched her teeth, pulled out the lotus leaves and narrowed her eyes to look, she could faintly see the underwater stakes that were supporting the wooden stage.

Zhuo Qing pondered for a moment, deeply breathing, then she dived down. The view from under the water was very poor, she could barely see the approximate size of the wooden stake and it was very thick, she could only feel with her hands for the other stakes. The fracture of the wooden stake was relatively smooth, while the fracture of the log looked like a normal wood pierce with some wood splinters.

Holding for a long time, Zhuo Qing floated up and took one big breath, waiting until she breathed smoothly afterwards, her expression was no longer looking relaxed like before. These kind of wooden stakes were soaking inside the water all year round, so it was not strange if they collapsed, but when she felt the fracture a moment ago, she could say that when she felt it, it absolutely did not feel like the rotten and spongy wood, how could it possible that they collapsed? Or the matter this time was actually not an accident, it was rather a man made arrangement?!

Zhuo Qing still wanted to continue to look for the other wooden stakes, but she heard a few voices not too far away, pulling out the lotus leaves to look out, there were several people who were dressed up as the palace eunuchs went in the pond.

Zhuo Qing was thinking, she decided to drop the subject for the time being, her skirt and her hair were twisting her feet frequently, this outfit was really not suitable for diving. She should climb ashore first, ok, otherwise, Lou Xi Wu and Qing Feng must be anxious for her.

Pushing aside the lotus leaves, Zhuo Qing slowly swam towards the outside, she could reach the underneath wooden stage with great difficult, several of the palace eunuchs also saw her.

Two of them swam towards her immediately, looking at them moving rather quickly, their swimming abilities of these few people should not be to bad. Zhuo Qing barely wanted to say that she could swim, and she could advance on her own. Those two people already arrived by her side, one person supported her arms, but, they did not want to save her to climb ashore, rather-- they pressed down her head, inside the water.

The sudden turn of event, made Zhuo Qing not expecting at the situation, her hair was pulled firmly, the slightly cold lake water was unrestrainedly on her eyes, ears, mouth and nose. Choking severely, Zhuo Qing's brain was exceptionally cleared now, everything about today was a conspiracy, making her to perform was a conspiracy, the wooden stage collapsing was a conspiracy, these people who came to save her, they were actually the people who came to kill her and they were sent by the person behind the scene, nothing more. And who was that person behind the scene, no need to say and tell.

Darn it!

She did not want to die like this!

Zhuo Qing was treading the water with great effort, but these two people's ability to swim were excellent, their strengths were also big. Pressing her shoulder and head with their hands like two iron metal pincers, they simply did not give her any opportunity to come out of the water.

This would not do! Continuing like this, she would surely drown and die, Zhuo

Qing clenched her teeth, simply no longer treading in the water, lifting her feet up, one left and one right towards both of the men's stomachs and ruthlessly kicked them. She did not care where she kicked, then she raised her hands to grab their heads and scratch them violently.

When they were grabbing Zhuo Qing, the two people did not think that she would still resist, her fingernails were poking in their eyes for several times, noses, their waists were also kicked painfully. Both of them were forced to free their hands to capture Zhuo Qing's waving hand, as a result, the strength to push down on Zhuo Qing was reduced. Zhuo Qing stepped on their waists, exerting her strength to go up, finally she could be out of the water surface, taking a few big breaths.

She had not recuperated her strength yet, the two people wrapped her around again, Zhuo Qing wanted to call for help, but those two people stretched their hands towards her arm. Having no other alternative, Zhuo Qing was forced to submerged into the water, at this time, she could vaguely hear Xi Wu's anxious voice that came through from a shore that was not too far away: "Did you find the person?!"

The dense of the lotus leaves was natural barrier, and with the partition of the fracture wooden stage, the people on the ashore simply could not see what was happening in the water. The lotus leaves made Zhuo Qing unable to move easily under the water, in order to prevent being captured by the two people again, she could only go under the water. And at a place not too far away, the palace eunuch who was in charge to cover up went ashore and answered with a loud voice: "There are many lotus leaves under the water, we simply can not find the person!"

The two palace eunuchs were pursuing her closely and not letting go, they could clearly see that Zhuo Qing could swim, they started to be more cautious and more fierce.

Once again being pressed down by them, Zhuo Qing exhausted to struggle free with all her strength, she tried to call for help several times, but she was already pressed down into the water. Her physical strength just could not endure it anymore, if no one would discover it, then she would die unjustly inside the lotus pond today!

Drowning from being suffocated and choking the water made her heart and lung feel like exploding and feeling unwell, she gradually felt that her body was more and more exhausted, more and more powerless.

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Yan Hong Tian's mood was very good, Lou Xi Yan also resumed his constant unhurried way, both of them walked over to the direction of the Imperial garden, looking from far away, this simply should be lively soft music, graceful dance, poem incantation, the elegant and unbounded style of the Imperial garden. However, there was a lot chaos at this moment, he could only see that a group of people were completely surrounded the side of the lotus pond, not knowing what was going on, Yan Hong Tian said to Gao Jin: "Go to take a look, why is there so much chaos over there?"

"Yes." Gao Jin accepted the order, and run towards the lotus pond.

Yan Hong Tian and Lou Xi Yan looked one glance, even though they did not say anything, but the two people's feet clearly walked a lot faster.

Entering the Imperial garden, Gao Jin who made a discreet inquiry, also came back, Yan Hong Tian asked: "What is the matter?"

Gao Jin was hesitated, seamlessly looked one glance at Lou Xi Yan, then cautiously and solemnly answered: "Answering the Emperor, the wooden stage in front of the lotus pond was collapsed suddenly, Miss Qing Ling was showing her painting skill at that time, incautiously fell into the water, they were..... saving the person now."

Gao Jin's words had not finished yet, Lou Xi Yan already ran madly towards the lotus pond.

"Xi Yan!" Yan Hong Tian was staring at Lou Xi Yan's back, he was surprised and unable to describe his impression at the moment, Xi Yan did not even wait to hear until the words were completely spoken, he just ran madly regardless of his image. He knew him for over 20 years, when did he ever lose his cool like this?!

Lou Xi Yan ran to the Imperial garden courtyard, many people heard the sound of his footsteps, so they turned around to see one by one, seeing Lou Xi Yan, a lot of the women made their salutations one by one. Lou Su Xin's face was surprised, and she asked: "Xi Yan, why did you come?" This was the Imperial

garden courtyard, the courtyard of the Emperor's harem, he was a state official, he should not appear on his own here.

Lowly panting, Lou Xi Yan did not answer her question yet, simply speaking irritably and he asked: "Where is she?"

Lou Su Xin was startled, she rarely saw Xi Yan looking ugly like this, even more with the provoking manner like this. Recovering, her mind was not pleased, Lou Su Xin coldly answered: "Still in the water, already send people to go down to save her....."

Her words had not finished yet, not caring how other people would look at him, Lou Xi Yan ran all the way to the side of the lotus pond. Lou Xi Wu who had been panicking for a long time, saw him, she immediately cried out: "Elder brother, what to do, Qing Ling fell down for almost half of an incense stick (about 15 min), they still have not found her!!"

She had been in the water for half of an incense stick time and still had not come out, he was afraid that this would be a disaster for Qing-er, his heart was jumping hysterically and almost to his extreme stage. Lou Xi Yan's expression was dark, pushing away Lou Xi Wu who was crying on his bosom, he went directly towards the lotus pond.

Lou Xi Wu looked at Lou Xi Yan who was unexpectedly jumping on the almost falling wooden stage, hovering around the unstable wooden stage, and without hesitation, he jumped into the lotus pond, she was losing her head out of fear, and in panicked, she screamed: "Elder brother!"

At this time, another dark silhouette also jumped closely along with Lou Xi Yan, that was-- Mo Bai.

"Xi Yan!" Lou Su Xin who was always sitting steadily on the master seat, startled and stood up from the chair, confusingly pointing a finger at the Imperial guards on the side, and she roared with a loud voice: "Somebody comes, hurry, hurry, hurry, go down into the water to save the person! You must protect Prime Minister Lou properly!"

Because of the struggling, her whole body was already purple, her tears had already ran dry for a long time, Qing Feng coldly looked at the chaos in the courtyard. Lou Su Xin was yelling, the Imperial bodyguards were flustered and

every one was striving to be the first to jump into the lotus pond.

Her hand was tightly pulled into a fist, she really hated!! She was wailing to request them to save her elder sister a moment ago, how cold and detached they were at that time, how they turned a blind eye!

Could it be that Lou Xi Yan's life was a life, her elder sister's was not a life?!

Could it be that the lives of a noble and lowly person would follow the definition of these powerful and influential people?! (Meaning that LXY & QL lives aren't equal according to these morons in the palace ).

# Record of Washed Grievances Chapter 83: Xi Yan's Rage

After discussing this with Din2, we have decided to post this chapter anyway. We shouldn't punish our loyal readers because of some irresponsible parties who like to steal other people's translations. Yes, we know who you are and that you copy & paste our translations into your website without our permission!!! Please remove our translations from your website when you read this message and stop copying and pasting our translations!!!

This was a really intense chapter... But the actual ZQ's rescue took almost the whole chapter... Unbelievable!!! And this might be the longest chapter so far... 9 stinking pages!!! Wow, over 5,100 words...

This chapter was edited by Din2.

In the lotus pond at this moment, a group of the Imperial bodyguards were jumping down, there were people within the lotus leaves, with some chaos, they were swimming to get to Lou Xi Yan's side, there was simply no one who seriously wanted to save the person.

Yan Hong Tian also walked to the side of the lotus pond, when he was still far away, he already saw Lou Xi Yan jumped into the lake, he was not surprise by this at all, since Xi Yan would be flustered and lost his control because of Qing Ling. He already anticipated that he would go into the water to save the person earlier, but from the beginning, he did not anticipate that Xi Yan would really care about Qing Ling this serious.

"Long live, long live, long long live, the Emperor." When everyone saw Yan Hong Tian by the lotus pond, they finally recovered, hurriedly made their salutations, everybody besides the anxious looking Lou Su Xin and Yang Zhi Lan, the icily arrogant Qing Feng and the panic looking Lou Xi Wu.

Not having any mood to deal with them, Yan Hong Tian waved his hand and answered: "Everyone can be excused to give courtesy, everybody can withdraw,

ok.”

Besides the Empress Dowagers and several Imperial concubines, the other family's young ladies, the madams, they all left the Imperial garden.

“Gao Jin, announce the Imperial physician!” This was already a very long time, they had not spread any news if they found the person from the lotus pond, if Qing Ling was in the water, she should already been drowned by now. Xi Yan cared about her so much, if he found the corpse, he was afraid that he.....

“Yes.” Gao Jin went to accept the order, hurriedly to go to the Imperial physician's courtyard, looking at the Emperor and Prime Minister Lou's attitudes towards Miss Qing Ling, if she was not rescued alive, he did not know how many people would be implicated by this.

Qing Feng's face was filled with tear stains, and those beautiful pair of eyes were flowing, hardly concealing the despair and hatred, those pair of eyes that were always filled with hatred, were precisely the reason why she seemed to start to get his attention. She just looked like a small beast, it seemed that as long as she was given an opportunity, she would surely pounce forward and bite, he liked to tame this kind of house pet.

Looking at the marks that she got struggling to get free on her raised sleeve, her wrists were entirely covered with purple bruises, Yan Hong Tian unconsciously wrinkled his eyebrows, he waved his hand towards the palace maids who were clutching her, with a cold sound, he said: “Let go off her.”

The palace maids did not dare to disobey, hurriedly released her hands.

Once they relinquished their grips, Qing Feng just wanted to rush towards the shuddered wooden stage, unfortunately, once she barely lifted her feet, her waist was immediately covered by a pair of powerful big hands to stop her. At the same time, an overbearing voice echoed on the side of her ear: “Too many people may not be able to rescue Qing Ling, it will be useless for you to go either, wait here obediently.”

Qing Feng firmly glared her eyes at this nasty man, her feet ferociously stepped on the top of his feet, unfortunately, Yan Hong Tian did not seem to feel anything, simply held her waist tighter with his hands, she was almost unable to breath easily.

“Ling-er!” After jumping into the lake, Lou Xi Yan just knew, the situation in the water surface was expected to be more complicated, there were wide and large lotus leaves all around. Let alone finding someone, he could not even see the situation near him. But because the pond was filled with the lotus leaves, Lou Xi Yan had a little hope, even if Qing-er was in the water, grabbing the lotus leaves could make her support herself for a moment, then she might not drown!

“Ling-er!!” Shouting with a louder voice to call her name again, Lou Xi Yan hoped that she could hear, and gave him a response.

Unfortunately, there were a group of Imperial bodyguards who jumped down the lake to come over, surrounding by their clamors and having no other choice, Lou Xi Yan could only shout with a loud voice: “All of you dive into the bottom of the lake to find her, hurry!”

“Yes.” The majority of the Imperial bodyguards obeyed the order and submerged into the water, unfortunately, the lotus leaves sheltered the sunshine, there were a lot of lotus flower stems that blocked the view in the underwater, basically, they were not able to see anything within half a zhang (one zhang is 3.3 meter).

Several distance from Lou Xi Yan’s closer Imperial bodyguards, some were gathering around to come up at the same time, one of them said solicitously: “Prime Minister Lou, they will surely look for Miss Qing Ling with all their strengths, please climb ashore first, ok, this water is very cold, it will injure your health.....”

“Get lost.” Every minute and every second it passed, Lou Xi Yan’s heart got more and more panicky, he had never before flustered like this until he could not act on his own feeling, he could feel that she was by his side, but he just could not find her. Being powerless, impatient, and frightened already made him to lose his normal self cultivation. He only wanted to find her quickly now, and to take her out of this cold water lake pond.

Mo Bai already swam to his side, Lou Xi Yan grabbed Mo Bai’s shoulder, urgently said: “Mo Bai, where is she?”

Lou Xi Yan who always had white complexion, seemed to look even more deathly pale now, Mo Bai had never seen the panic looking expression from his

eyes. The master whom he remembered, was no matter what matter he ran into, he would be calm and unhurried. Qing Ling was very important in his mind, this could be considered as the best confirmation.

Mo Bai lightly closed his clear eyes, thinking deeply for a moment, Lou Xi Yan could already feel that the shift of the river was occurring by his side, Mo Bai had a special ability, he started knowing this from the time that Mo Bai was following him by his side. In normal times, he would not wish for Mo Bai to show his capability in controlling the water and wind, the color of his clear eyes already made him unable to blend with ordinary people. If his ability was exposed, the common people would even more considered him as a monster, but at this moment, he was so glad that he sheltered him. If Mo Bai could not find Qing-er, nobody would be able to find her.

A moment afterwards, Mo Bai finally opened his clear eyes up, the original azure color eyes changed into lighter colors now, almost like white color, it flashed through a blue ray light from time to time, it was somewhat frightening to see. Fortunately, the lotus leaves separated from the other people's line of sights, Mo Bai pointed towards the front left side and said: "Over there."

Finished speaking, Mo Bai already submerged into the lake, Lou Xi Yan hurriedly pointed to the direction where he was swimming. Pushing aside layer upon layer of lotus leaves, Lou Xi Yan could see from a distant place two people who were wearing the palace eunuchs' clothes. They were in the middle of pushing something inside the water incessantly, the sound of gurgling water when they slapped the water was very clear.

This direction was exactly the direction that Mo Bai pointed out, Lou Xi Yan was alarmed, immediately shouted with a loud voice: "What are you people doing?"

Because Zhuo Qing was going underwater all along, they were also struggling all along, and already swam too far from the ashore area. The two people did not think that layer upon layer of lotus leaves would be separated down, and there was someone who discovered them. Hearing the low roar, both of them were stumped for words, their hands were grabbing the woman who already fainted, no longer resisted. The two of them looked one glance at each other, then letting Zhuo Qing's shoulder go at the same time. Feeling that the woman was

slowly going down, the two people secretly relaxed, then turned around towards Lou Xi Yan's overcast eyes. The two people were just about to reply, but they suffered an extremely powerful stream from under the water that was rushing forth and went up, one white transparent with blue eyes male split up the water to come out. And on his hands, he was carrying the woman whom they just threw under the water a moment ago.

The two palace eunuchs did not dare to believe and open their big eyes, was he a man? How could it possible that he would be wordless and uncommunicative like this to appear from under the water, moreover, he unexpectedly just happened to save the woman whom they pressed down into the water.

Lou Xi Yan already forged ahead to come over, the two people hurriedly put away their fear expressions (the actual idiom was losing one's head out of fear), pretending to be calm and say: "This person..... detected a sound call for help from this side a moment ago, rushing to come over but we were not able to see any reflection of the person."

The first time they saw Zhuo Qing's frightened expression, Lou Xi Yan already took in the whole scene at once (he already knew what was going on), but at this moment, he did not have any mood to bother about them. Meeting forward to take Zhuo Qing who already lost consciousness from Mo Bai's bosom, closely embracing her waists and putting her on his bosom, but his heart did not have any calmness, instead, he had a greater fear surrounded him. The present Zhuo Qing, her body was colder than the cold lake water, her eyes were tightly closed, her teeth were closed firmly, the original rosy lips appeared to be dark black like a black purple because of the long suffocation.

"Ling-er! Wake up, wake up! Ling-er, can you hear me speak?" Slapping her cheeks, Zhuo Qing did not have any response, Lou Xi Yan's expression was dark, he spoke to Mo Bai who was behind him: "Arrest them to go ashore."

Finished speaking, Lou Xi Yan was supporting Zhuo Qing's shoulder, carrying her to the shore.

Returning to the shore, Lou Xi Yan was holding Zhuo Qing's body to climb up. Lou Xi Wu who was standing at the shore, hurriedly ran forward, and holding Zhuo Qing's hand to pull her up.

Seeing that Lou Xi Yan found her, Qing Feng seemed as if she tried to struggle to get free one more time, Yan Hong Tian did not make things difficult for her this time, and let go off her hand quickly.

Qing Feng rushed to the shore, and together with Lou Xi Wu, were pulling Zhuo Qing up to the shore, but seeing Zhuo Qing's black purple lips and a very pale face, Lou Xi Wu was immediately scared and she dropped to sit on the side. Qing Feng was closely holding her sister whose body was ice cold, incessantly crying out and yelling: "Elder sister, elder sister, wake up, wake up!"

She already lost her mother and father, she could not lose her elder sister again ah!

Lou Xi Yan was also on the shore at this moment, Lou Su Xin who was always waiting anxiously on the shore immediately met him up, the momo who was behind her was holding two thick blankets on her hands. Lou Su Xin took the blankets, lovingly draped the blankets on his shoulder, urgently said: "Xi Yan, hurry drape it on, do not catch a cold!"

Zhuo Qing who was laying down on the ground at this time was only wearing a simple clothing and thin skirt, she was drenched all over, her whole clothes stuck on her body. Her cold body's temperature stabbed Qing Feng's heart of pain, secretly clenching her teeth, Qing Feng pulled open her belt. Just about to take off her own clothes to cover her elder sister, the similar cold ice hand grabbed her wrist at the same time, Qing Feng raised her head. Lou Xi Yan already held Zhuo Qing tenderly, and used the blanket on his own body to cover her, he threw one on the ground and used the other one to cover her body.

"Imperial physician." Lou Xi Yan shouted with a cold voice.

Four Imperial physicians were running to come over at the same time, one took her pulse, one pressed her abdomen, they were unable to guard against the male and female rule at this time. When Gao gonggong came, he especially communicated that the one who fell into the water was Prime Minister Lou's madam. If there was any little mishap, they might not be able to maintain their own lives!

Standing next to Qing Ling to observe, Qing Feng gratefully looked one glance at the always cultured and refined man, but whose complexion was gloomy, cold

and fearful at this moment. It was him who rescued elder sister, elder sister did not pick a wrong person. She would think of a way to return this feeling to him, as far as those who owed them, she would asked it back little by little one day (this sentence might not be cleared enough. QF just thought that she would remember that LXY saved her sister in the future and she would somehow take revenge on those evil people in the future)!

Lou Su Xin's face was stiff, but she did not say anything either, the momo who was behind her cleverly brought another blanket again. Lou Su Xin did not put it on Lou Xi Yan's shoulder personally this time, it was rather that she sent an expression to the momo, the momo handed over the blanket on her hand in front of Lou Xi Yan's face respectfully.

Lou Xi Yan's face was expressionless and took the blanket to wipe dry the water from his face and body, then plainly returned the blanket back to the momo. Lou Su Xin's complexion was even uglier.

Mo Bai forced the two palace eunuchs to the shore at this time, Lou Xi Yan walked to the shore, when he was next to Mo Bai, he said some words to Mo Bai's ear softly, Mo Bai clearly understood and nodded his head. Then he submerged into the water again, nobody understood what he was trying to do, except for Yang Zhi Lan's complexion that changed slightly at this moment.

Everyone was nervous waiting for the outcome of the Imperial physicians' medical treatment, after all, Zhuo Qing's complexion really scared people, at this moment, Lou Xi Yan's voice that was so cold it could freeze people, suddenly said: "Someone comes, take those two people to prison."

All of the Imperial armies stared blankly, inside the palace, only the Emperor could command them whom to arrest, they did not need to pay attention to other people, but Prime Minister Lou was the one who gave the order today. This made them to feel awkward, carefully looking one glance at the Emperor, the Emperor's face did not change, merely nodded his head lightly. The Imperial armies immediately understood, four people rushed to step forward, and arrested the two palace eunuchs.

Yang Zhi Lan's heart jumped out, could it be that Lou Xi Yan saw any mistake?! Calmly stepping forward one step, Yang Zhi Lan pretended not to understand

and asked: “Xi Yan, what are you doing? Even though they did not do their best to rescue, they should not go to jail for their sins either, right.”

“Not doing their best to rescue?” His phoenix’s eyes slightly narrowed, hardly concealing his cold stare, Lou Xi Yan answered with a cold voice: “Chen saw it, it was actually an attempted murder!”

Having never seen this kind of Lou Xi Yan, first time knowing, the cold ray from his eyes was unexpectedly made people to tremble with fear, Yang Zhi Lan deeply breathing, forced a smile and said: “This..... was impossible, ok!”

Turning her head to look towards the two palace eunuchs, Yang Zhi Lan deliberately chided with a loud voice: “Dog slaves, what was going on after all?”

The two people hurriedly kneeled down, one person started talking soon afterward to state the injustice: “These slaves were accused wrongly ah, too many lotus leaves under the water, we were looking for a long time but did not find Miss Qing. With great difficulty, we found her, but Miss Qing was already drowned and fainted, these slaves supported Miss with our hands. When Prime Minister Lou rushed to come over at that time, he believed that these slaves harmed Miss Qing, these slaves absolutely did not injure Miss intentionally!!”

Yang Zhi Lan secretly relaxed, these two people were worthy to be her trained followers, in term of handling the matter, it could be regarded as appropriate. Recovering, and showing tenderness to look at the Imperial physicians who were still giving medical treatment to Zhuo Qing, Yang Zhi Lan sighed and said: “So it turned out to be like this, Aijia could understand Xi Yan’s impatient mood to rescue the person, this accident was extremely unexpected, nobody would wish to see it, fortunately, Ling-er was also rescued now.”

Lou Xi Yan’s uncharacteristically did not take advantage of the silent, he was rather look towards Yang Zhi Lan directly, he answered with a cold voice: “The meaning of the Empress Dowager was that Chen misjudged? Chen is not yet slow-witted that I can not see clearly the situation when one is trying to save or murder someone!”

Yang Zhi Lan stared blankly, she did not anticipate that Lou Xi Yan unexpectedly would contradict her words, she was speechless for a while, but Lou Xi Yan did not intend on dropping this subject. The moment that Mo Bai

supported Qing-er out of the water, his heart almost stopped pulsing, and he even did not dare to go and look at her who was laying down on the floor and not making any sound at the moment. But he did not want to admit it either, simply waiting for the Imperial physicians to give medical treatments this time, it would be enough to make him crazy.

Being in fear and distressed, made Lou Xi Yan who was rarely exploded for the past many years to be in rage, and at this moment, he did not want to restrain himself, his gaze swept pass the slanting wooden stage. Lou Xi Yan's anger flamed up and straightforwardly turned towards the East and West Empress Dowagers who were aloof, he said: "The palace held a banquet, it should guarantee their safety, the wooden stage collapsed without a reason, and someone already fell in the lotus pond. The courtyard was packed with the Imperial bodyguards and maids, unexpectedly, there were only four people who went into the water to rescue the person, this lotus pond was so big, why did you all not add the manpower to help out? Whether or not Chen could think that this was a deliberate murder scheme?"

"Impudent!" Lou Su Xin's complexion was extremely ugly, the well maintained face became all wrinkled because of anger now, with a stern voice, she berated: "Lou Xi Yan, this is an internal matter in the palace, you are an external official, how dare you to intervene. Perhaps, this matter is simply an accident, even if there is really someone who has an ulterior motive, the Yuan family can investigate this clearly on their own. You speak so rudely like this, and acting on your own's initiative, becoming an obstacle!"

He simply went against her, because of one woman, he lost his elegant demeanor like this, he really disappointed her very much!!

Lou Xi Yan immediately swept past her, looked towards the person who was standing aside silently all along, the mysterious Yan Hong Tian, with a clear sound, he pressed on forward and asked: "Daring to ask the Emperor, Chen's wife has had an accident in the palace, the life or death is still unpredictable, whether or not Chen can have the privilege to investigate the person who is responsible for this?"

Yan Hong Tian solemnly nodded his head, earnestly answered: "You can." It was very rare that Xi Yan showed his anger for the first time, he wanted to

support him more just now.

Lou Su Xin's angry face changed from blue to white, very well ah! They joined forces to go against her! She wanted to take a look today, she always put this good nephew in her heart and loved him dearly, how did he want to lay out the blame on her. Arrogantly lifting her head, Lou Su Xin coldly groaned and said: "Fine, you want to investigate who the responsible person is, is Aijia responsible for it? Or who has pushed your wife into the pond?"

Yang Zhi Lan lowly smiled, hurriedly helped to resolve the dispute by saying: "Xi Yan, this is simply an accident, there is no one who will deliberately want to harm Ling-er, do not provoke your aunt to be angry like this."

Lou Xi Yan's cold eyes slightly raised, looked towards Yang Zhi Lan who had a loving face, with a cold voice, he forced to ask: "What do you do if this is not an accident?"

Yang Zhi Lan's heart was suddenly tightened, today's Lou Xi Yan changed into someone else's, she always felt that Lou Xi Yan somewhat knew something, but how could this possible, he just barely rushed over, nothing more. Just when she was anxious and frightened, Mo Bai who submerged into the water for a long time, finally floated up, he was holding a bunch of ropes on his hands. Throwing away the ropes on the shore, Mo Bai immediately crawled up, the pale skin, sky blue eyes color, made him to become everyone's focus immediately, there was still some low whisper sounds from time to time.

Mo Bai's cold face did not have any expression, directly walked towards Lou Xi Yan, Mo Bai said with a low voice: "Master, the wooden stage had a total of twelve stakes under the water, every stake was deliberately cut off for more than half a notch, moreover, the gap of every stump was connected with the rope. The vicinity where Madam fell down had two pillars that were already fractured, at that time when the rope was pulled to break the wooden stake, the rope should already been taken away, the rest of the ropes were still there at the moment. No matter where Madam would stand at that time, the wooden stage under her feet would collapse."

His voice was not loud, but once he stopped talking, the shore became quiet at first, then there were rustling noises afterwards.

“So is there anybody who says that this is an accident now?” Lou Xi Yan collected the ropes that were on the ground, it appeared that his eagle sharp and fierce phoenix eyes swept pass everyone, one could not see what he was thinking, and one did not dare to answer him either.

Yang Zhi Lan secretly cursed, darn it! Originally, they could just take and pull the whole wooden stage to collapse, then took back the ropes, but this way, it would not look like an accident from the worn down by years of non repair. She originally planned to drawn Qing Ling to die afterwards, the palace eunuchs who went down into the water to save the person had to fasten up the ropes again before they left, there would be no evidence in this way. Top secret, but one could only calculate, she did not figure that Lou Xi Yan would come unexpectedly either, and jumped into the water, she did not anticipate his intelligent in this way even more, he immediately made people to check up the wooden stakes in the water, it seemed that she would have to find a scapegoat this time and it would be alright!

Taking advantage of everyone who was still surprise, Yang Zhi Lan was already in anger and she said: “Ridiculous, this kind of matter could happen in the palace unexpectedly, elder sister, this time we surely have to investigate this properly until the truth comes to light!”

Lou Su Xin’s brows knitted once again, unexpectedly, it was really not an accident, even so, she felt that her own authority was challenged, so her complexion was still not pleased.

How could Lou Xi Yan make this matter to become the investigation case of the inner palace on their own, then they would just find a scapegoat to settle the matter as their wishes. Looking towards Yan Hong Tian, Lou Xi Yan said with a cold voice: “Chen thinks even if this matter has happened in the inner palace, but there are many family influential young ladies on the scene, the prestigious house afterwards. Today’s palace banquet is to choose the candidates who will perform at Qiong Yue’s celebration, this case relates to the celebration, and no longer relates to the matter in the inner palace, it should be handed over to the Ministry of Justice to hear the case and simply must not trouble both of the Empress Dowagers!”

“Granted.” Yan Hong Tian had already felt faintly that this matter was odd, if

he did not agree to hand over the investigation to the Ministry of Justice, he was afraid that Xi Yan would absolutely not drop the subject from then on!

“Somebody comes, take and imprison these four people in the Imperial prison. Imperial army, seal off the Imperial garden, this case will be handed over to the Ministry of Justice to hear.”

“Yes.”

“Ou.....” (Vomiting sound). The person who was laying on the ground finally reacted, a mouthful of water was spit out, Zhuo Qing was coughing fiercely. Looking that she finally moved, Qing Feng’s tears flew out of her eyes helplessly, but this time was because of happiness: “Elder sister!”

Lou Xi Yan heard the coughing sound, and rushed over hurriedly to come, half kneeling by her side, closely pulling her hand, Lou Xi Yan urgently said: “Ling-er! You can hear me speaking, right?” He was anxious for her to be sure, to be sure that she was still alive!

Zhuo Qing’s consciousness was still vague, her chest was painfully hurt, she was unable to breathe, it felt like some thing was pressing on her. She wanted to open her eyes, but she was helpless either, vaguely, she could hear a clamoring sound around her, but it sounded like a buzzing sound. Carefully hearing, she seemed to hear Lou Xi Yan’s voice, but it also did not seem like it was his voice. He was always gentle and soft when he talked, it was not like this loud roar and loud shouting, her brain was still muddled, but she was unconsciously nodded her head.

Looking at her nodding her head weakly, Lou Xi Yan’s worry in his heart could be put down finally, holding her in his bosom, Lou Xi Yan asked: “How is she now?”

Qing Ling had already woken up, the Imperial physicians were the happiest, their lives were saved at last.

“Even though Miss Qing has drowned for a long time, but she has finally woken up and will slowly recuperate. But there is still a possibility that the mucus on the throat will warmup to obstruct her lung, maybe from the outside cold but we have wait for the root that causes the trouble. She will need a lot of conditionings and has to take good care of her health.”

Using the two blankets to closely wrapped Zhuo Qing's body, Lou Xi Yan said to the Imperial physicians on the side: "You will need to write out several prescriptions, take the medicine and herbs to the Prime Minister's manor."

"Yes."

Yang Zhi Lan came up, looked one glance at Lou Xi Yan's bosom where Zhuo Qing was still unconscious, distressingly said: "Xi Yan ah, Ling-er is still unconscious now, it is inappropriate for her to travel and be tired, it is better to let her stay and rest at the Xi Xia palace properly, wait until she wakes up, and nurses her body a little, will this be better than taking her back to the manor?"

Qing Ling unexpectedly did not die, if she woke up and said that the palace eunuchs made her drown, that would be troublesome, if she could make her to stay to see what she said when she was awoken, then she could decide how to handle the stuff and whether or not to use those people who did not do their best the first time around.

Holding her waist and getting up, Lou Xi Yan coldly answered: "No need. Xi Wu, go."

He would not let Qing-er taking any risk, this would be the last time, and also the only time!

"Oh." Lou Xi Wu stared blankly and followed Lou Xi Yan's back, her head did not dare to turn around, she was scared to death!! Their aunt's complexion was frightfully black a moment ago, but she still wanted to say, elder brother was extremely..... extremely cool today!

She could already see that Qing Ling was set to be her sister in law, but elder brother burst with rage this time, she estimated that their aunt would be insanely mad also, she must not enter the Imperial palace to act as a good cannon fodder these days. (It's a saying that she should avoid the palace as her aunt would probably get mad at her also).

Sian's notes:

Wow... Mo Bai has this special ability... I'm quite shock. Or should I be shocked at this finding? Knowing this author, she can throw out some pretty neat plots or

relationships. I like Mo Bai even more.

# Record of Washed Grievances (By Qian Lu) Chapter 84: Panic Throughout The City

Thank you all for your encouraging comments. I have promised that we will see the end of this novel and I intend to keep that promise. Please don't worry as I won't drop this novel. I'm doing this translation as a hobby so I will ignore the thief... But I do want to say that I'm not asking for any money or donation to do this translation.

A lot of sweet moments in this chapter. Over 4,500 words.

This chapter was translated by Sian for <https://nuttyisprocrasinating.wordpress.com> only and edited by Din2.

## Zhai Xing Pavilion

The sun shined brightly outside the window, Zhuo was lying on the bed, not knowing her own mood at the moment, what she should use to describe it!

At the bedside, Lou Xi Yan softly blew the decoction of herbs medicine inside the spoon, when he was sure that it was not hot, only then he sent it over to her mouth. His clear and glossy eyes were looking dotingly at her, this time, she would want to drink even poison, right! Zhuo Qing's heart was crying piteously, but she still opened her mouth, and swallowed down that herbs medicine on the spoon.

She knew that Lou Xi Yan was really good to her, he was feeding her to drink the medicine one spoon at a time, moreover, they said that he asked the Imperial physician to concoct a special herbs so it was not too bitter, but Zhuo Qing who used to eat western medicine still became frantic. Even though she really wanted to continue enjoying his great care in feeding her, but this medicine was really extremely unpleasant to drink! When Lou Xi Yan gave her another spoon in front of her again, Zhuo Qing immediately took the medicine bowl from his hand, and finished drinking it in a mouthful!

Even though it was somewhat hot, and also bitter, but it was better to just get

it over with, rather than prolonging her agony! Zhuo Qing poured down a couple big cups of water afterwards, to push down the foul taste in her mouth. Lou Xi Yan was laughing helplessly looking at her, Zhuo Qing pretended not to see it, she asked: "Are you not busy these days? How do you have time to stay at home all day long?"

She was lying down at home for three to four days, although he did not keep her company all the time, but the time when she had to drink the medicine three times a day, he would show up, she did not even have any chance to get rid of the medicine.

Lou Xi Yan took the medicine bowl, and put it on the short table, perfunctorily answered: "Sick leave."

Sick leave? Zhuo Qing laughed, but she did not question closely either, but she was rather in high spirit and asking: "I heard that you waged a war with the East and West Empress Dowagers at the Imperial garden on that day? How unfortunate that I did not see your violent rage look."

Xi Wu came over to look after her for the past few days, speaking with radiant and delight that Lou Xi Yan was very heroic that day, very cool, she simply exaggerated the fight like it was with a group of look alike devils. Even though she did not dare to believe Lou Xi Wu's words entirely, but she probably knew, that Lou Xi Yan was surely angry that day, moreover, his anger was not small either.

Lou Xi Yan was somewhat between laughter and tear: "You want to see?"

Zhuo Qing was still nodding her head, laughing heartily, she said: "As long as it is not to me, I am really interested to see it quickly." Who made Lou Xi Wu to speak so wonderfully like that! It made her curious endlessly.

Lou Xi Yan immediately ignored her words, nevertheless, he pulled up the thin quilt, and helped to cover her properly, with a soft voice, he said: "Lie down again and go to sleep."

Even though it was midsummer, she was really not this weak! Zhuo Qing shook her head, while throwing the quilt to the inside of the bed, she answered: "It has already been a good several days, I am also a medical expertise, my health does not have any peculiar reaction, so it should not have any lingering repercussion

from the drowning, you can feel relieved.”

She had cooperated with the medical treatments for the past few days, merely because she, herself also knew that drowning could very easily induce bronchitis afterwards, pneumonia, and so on. But it was already many days like this now, she felt that her own body was already in a stable condition, she certainly did not want to be trapped on the bed!

Her forehead really revealed a thin layer of sweats, Lou Xi Yan did not force her any longer, “If the Empress Dowager gives an Imperial decree to make you enter the palace again these days, you do not need to pay attention to it.”

Zhuo Qing lightly knitted her eyebrows, smilingly said: “As a matter of fact, is this not regarded as resisting the Imperial decree, not respecting it?”

“Before we get married, you possess a serious illness, can not go down from the bed, naturally can not enter the palace.” Lou Xi Yan deliberately aggravated ‘serious illness’, this two words.

Zhuo Qing understandingly smiled: “Understood!” She naturally did not wish to enter the Imperial palace, after the matter this time, she estimated to see that two old women again, it would be hard to have a calm attitude, not seeing them would be the best.

Remembering when Lou Xi Wu was talking to her, when she fell into the water, Qing Feng was crying until her eyes were swollen, Zhuo Qing hurriedly said: “Can you send a message to Qing Feng, telling her that I am fine, I am afraid that she will be anxious.” Even though she did not have any sisters feeling with Qing Feng, but Qing Feng was really sincere to her. She was still touched, since she occupied this body, she would consider Qing Feng as her own close relative, ok.”

“You can be at ease, I have already sent a message to her.” There was chaos on that day at the side of the lotus pond, he was anxious incessantly, but Qing Feng’s hateful eyes, he would never ignore it. He had this feeling that this woman, would definitely not going to accept anybody’s bullying and humiliation. That place in the harem, with her kind of temperament, she would not step on anybody’s feet, then she would get bully until she was completely covered with cuts and bruises, both circumstances were not good situations.

Zhuo Qing did not know Lou Xi Yan’s mind, and she was concerned with

another problem: “Based on the investigation, who wanted to kill me?”

Lou Xi Yan stared blankly: “You knew?” He always thought that she could not swim, after she fell into the water, it was a chaotic situation, as it turned out, she knew it.

Zhuo Qing nodded her head, remembering her struggle in the water on that day, her complexion became somewhat cold: “Actually, I can swim, I have also looked at the wooden stakes under the water. The cause of the collapse was absolutely not because of the worn down by years of non repair, moreover, the cause of my drowning was because I was pressed down under the water. This was enough for me to make a determination that it was an intentional homicide, I think that the murderer is her, but I have no evidence.”

“I can not be sure whether or not it is her at the present time, but I will not drop this matter at this point, you rest properly, and do not be anxious again.” Hearing what she said, that she was drowned because she was pressed down under the water, Lou Xi Yan’s heart was tightened once again, she must be frightened and felt helpless at that time! Taking Zhuo Qing lightly and holding her in his bosom, he was caressing her hair gently, he was comforting her, but at the same time, he was comforting himself. He did not even dare to imagine, if he did not go to the Imperial garden on that day, or did not have Mo Bai by his side, what was the consequence? He would lose her forever, unaware that his hands were tightened up slowly, only her warm body temperature could make his heart to be calmed and quiet now.

Being in Lou Xi Yan’s bosom suddenly, Zhuo Qing stared blankly at first, when she sensed that his hands were tighter and tighter, she knew that he was still distressed because of her. Her face lightly leaned against his shoulder, Zhuo Qing stretched her hands, closely hugging him back, she said softly in his ear: “I am alright, really.”

Her soft voice actually appeased his heart, he wished to be able to protect her in his bosom continuously like this, but it was impossible. Merely seeing her soft hair, Lou Xi Yan lowly sighed and said: “Let Mo Bai protect you in secret in the future, ok?”

“No.” Zhuo Qing sat up suddenly, immediately rejected the offer.

Lou Xi Yan knew that she liked to have freedom, did not like to be restricted by anybody, but he did not anticipate that she would be this determined. Lightly caressing her cheek, Lou Xi Yan softly coaxed and explained: “He will not hinder or prevent you to do anything, you can go to any place, he will simply protect your safety.”

Zhuo Qing was smiling, and she answered: “I am not talking about this, he is your personal imperial bodyguard, I will feel relatively relieved if he is protecting you, you are the Prime Minister, there will be many more dangers on your side. If you are worry about me, you can look for another person to protect me, ok, anybody can.”

Lou Xi Yan cared and loved her dearly, she knew it, but she was not a porcelain doll, one bump and she would break into pieces, the matter at the lotus pond was her negligent. As a modern person, she had not changed the way she was thinking, and did not understand what the women in the harem were thinking. But she understood it now, and she would keep this moment in her heart.

“Qing-er, that kind of frightening from the last time, the first time was already enough. I will not be able to endure it a second time, I already have many people who can protect me by my side, I do not normally use Mo Bai either. I can not keep you company at all times, but I will be anxious at all times because of you. If Mo Bai is following by your side, I will have a peaceful mind, promise me, ok?”

His hands on her waist were tightened up again, both of them tightly embracing each other, Zhuo Qing could feel his heartbeats, compared to the first time, it was quicker. Zhuo Qing wanted to refuse again but she swallowed her words, smilingly said: “Ok.”

He was really thin, did not have a strong and muscular figure, but she felt very safe. Softly closing her eyes to enjoy his embrace, Zhuo Qing suddenly thought of something, she opened her eyes and said urgently: “I have one request, it is very important!”

Lou Xi Yan slightly stared blankly, and asked: “What is it?”

“Can I choose the wedding dress and the design of the phoenix crown?” She was wearing three layers of skirts on that day and she was nearly unable to breathe. Lou Xi Wu said that the wedding dress from the Imperial household was

seven layers, even though the Lou family was not the royal family, there would have six layers at the very least, then she would be tormented to die again!

“Just this one matter?” Lou Xi Yan did not know whether to laugh or cry.

“En.” Zhuo Qing seriously nodded her head, strictly speaking, this matter regarding her wedding day was very important.

Lou Xi Yan broke into laughter, he held her in his embrace again, smilingly said: “The madam wants to say what, then it will be it!”

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The delicate and magnificent of the inside of the lady's chamber, it should have a lingering fragrance, unfortunately, the inside of the room was filled with the strong smell of the reeking of blood. The blood on the floor had not completely dried up yet, the light pink of the mattress was covered by the blood to become a scarlet, the bed clothing of the woman on the bed was entirely taken off. The bright and clean skin did not have any wound, after careful inspection, one could see a thin red line on the left side of the chest. Lightly supporting the skin, one could find about three inches length of an incision, the incision was very neat, it was thin and soft, where the blood was flowing, it was already dried up at this moment.

Dan Yu Lan slightly pressed the chest a little harder, the clear hollow was already shown, this corpse was missing a heart.

The murderer's knife position was very accurate, the deceased did not have any binding mark in her body, also did not have any struggling bruise. The pair of eyes were opened, the mouth was slightly opened, the face's expression was extremely frightened. They did not have any drug to knock them out, why they did not struggle either, what did one see that could show this frightening expression like this?!

After checking up and locking up the doorway, Lu Jin's brows unconsciously knitted tightly, he walked to Dan Yu Lan's back, and said: “Daren, the door lock does not have any damage, also does not have any trace.”

Looking one glance at the corpse on the bed, Lu Jin shook his head and said: “Except the left side of the chest, the other part of the body did not have any bruise, the door was also locked up tightly. The only thing that was missing from

the corpse was the heart, and the technique in these two cases in the past were practically identical. It has been closed to two months since the third case of the removing of the heart, moreover, all the dead people were the offsprings of the famous family, the aristocratic family's young ladies, this time was unexpectedly Princess An Ning."

The other was leaning on one side, one tall and thin man whose hands were on his chest, his young face was full of anger, he lowly shouted: "The celebration is almost here, the case like this has happened unexpectedly, moreover, I see that the tendency is getting more and more intense also, if this case is not solved, the Emperor will also flip out."

His speaking voice just barely faded off, one bailiff ran to come over, he stopped at the outside of the door, urgently said: "Daren, the Emperor's order, to declare you to enter the Imperial palace immediately."

Lu Jin looked one glance at the white man, his mouth did not conceal or block, it was good now, the dog's mouth did not spit out the elephant tusk! (An analogy saying that a bad guy can't tell good things with his mouth).

Cheng Hang curled his lips, his mouth did not guard the door, speaking without thinking, who would have imagined that it was coincidental like this! Carefully looking towards Dan Yu Lan, his complexion did not have any change, Cheng Hang admired him secretly, Daren was worthy to be a Daren!

Lu Jin and Cheng Hang were considered the skilled students whom he brought up, Lu Jin's mind was meticulous, with a steady behavior, his autopsy was somewhat skilled. But Cheng Hang was usually somewhat careless, but his energy was very vigorous, he was dedicated to his work. They transferred back here because this case was very tough to crack!

"Lu Jin, Cheng Hang, I am handing this over to you." Based on their experiences and abilities, there would not be any problem.

"Yes."

Taking off the gloves, Dan Yu Lan went out of the door with his large strides, Lu Jin and Cheng Hang looked one glance at each other, they were somewhat anxious.

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Inside the Imperial study, Yan Hong Tian, sat on the dragon throne, his dark and heavy complexion was scary, one group of the maids' heads were lowered on the ground, they did not dare to breathe with this type of atmosphere. Dan Yu Lan entered the Imperial study, he already knew why the Emperor announced him to enter the Imperial palace today.

“Pay respect to the Emperor.”

As expected, Dan Yu Lan's words had not even finished yet, Yan Hong Tian did not ask him to rise up either, with a cold and firm voice, he asked immediately: “When can the removal of heart case be solved?”

Dan Yu Lan hesitated for a moment, and he could only answer according to the facts: “Chen does not know.”

“Absolutely disgraceful!” Along with the rage, a couple of dark red reports were thrown down at Dan Yu Lan's feet. Yan Hong Tian slapped the table and stood up, pointing his finger at Dan Yu Lan and he said angrily: “If there are a few more days, the civil and military officials are grieving and sick because of the painful loss of their loved ones, they do not need to go to the Imperial court, do not need to handle the official business! The celebration is going to start soon, this kind of case happens in the capital unexpectedly, the people are alarmed, where will Qiong Yue's prestige be put out?” The angry voice resonated in the Imperial study, all of the palace eunuchs and palace maids were kneeling on the ground.

Dan Yu Lan bowed down his head, confronting the scolding voice, he could not provide an explanation, it was already two months, they unexpectedly did not find any useful clue. The murderer still continued to commit the violent acts, in the capacity as a head of the Criminal Prison Division, he did not fulfill his duties.

He wanted to solve this case by any mean, still in silent, it was the most thing that he did not expect to see, angrily sitting down, Yan Hong Tian did not look at Dan Yu Lan anymore, with a cold voice, he said: “Chen will give you one month, no matter what method you use, whom you assign, you must solve this case. If you can not solve this case within one month, this Criminal Prison Division will be dissolved and you will be sent to prison for three years!”

“Chen accepts the Imperial decree.” He did not hesitate or could provide an

explanation, Dan Yu Lan calmly accepted the Imperial decree.

His approach made Yan Hong Tian's anger somewhat vanished gradually, and he did not want to make things difficult for him either, waving his hand, he said impatiently: "Withdraw, ok."

Dan Yu Lan turned around to leave, but his complexion was never grave from the beginning.

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Lying down on the bed for several days, Zhuo Qing could finally get down from the bed and walked everywhere, just like the previous days in the morning. Lou Xi Wu would come over to accompany her chatting, saying something about the wedding ceremonial robe and the style of the phoenix hat. Today was already noon, but she still had not seen her shadow, not knowing what to do, Zhuo Qing decided to go and look for her.

Just leaving Lan Yue building, she saw Jing Sa and about two dozens people who dressed as the Imperial bodyguards, he was in the middle of saying something, soon, they were divided into two teams, then went into two different directions, it seemed like they were patrolling.

But there was never any Imperial bodyguard who patrolled at the Prime Minister's manor ah? Being curious, Zhuo Qing walked forward and asked: "Jing Sa, what are they doing?"

The wedding invitations were already sent out, the news of Zhuo Qing and Lou Xi Yan's wedding had been scattering inside the capital for a long time. There was no doubt that Zhuo Qing was the mistress at the Prime Minister's manor. Jing Sa could not say if he liked or disliked this new mistress, but since she was master's wife, Jing Sa's attitude seemed to be even more respectful: "Madam, the celebration is almost here, there are so many people mingling inside the capital, Master is worry about the security at the Prime Minister's manor'."

Still somewhat not used with Jing Sa's transformation, Zhuo Qing embarrassedly smiled, and answered: "Ok, I get it, then you get busy, ok."

She still could not adapt to the ancient time's concept of seniors and juniors, just like Xue Xian Xin who was always looking to bother her. This time period, it was very unusual for her, every time she heard the calling of 'Ling-er, Ling-er' for

the whole time, it gave her goose bumps.

Walking towards Lou Xi Wu's courtyard all the way, Zhuo Qing discovered that there were more than two Imperial bodyguard teams whom she just saw, there were suddenly many bodyguards who were patrolling inside the manor, she felt somewhat strange.

Entering Lou Xi Wu's courtyard, her maid, Su-er immediately met her up, Zhuo Qing made a silent gesture to her, because she saw Lou Xi Wu was sitting in the inside pavilion, lifelessly staring at one direction. Wanting to tease her, Zhuo Qing walked to her side, suddenly uttered a smile and said: "Who are you missing? Becoming foolish like this!"

Lou Xi Wu was really scared hearing the voice, but she did not return her usual curse and ruckus, she was rather propping her cheeks, her eyes unexpectedly had a little faint of teardrops.

There was something wrong with this young girl, Zhuo Qing sat down next to her, quietly asked: "What is going on?"

"I just found out today, that Princess An Ning was killed unexpectedly last night! Her death was very cruel! We played together regularly when we were small, I still met her at the clothing store last month, who could have thought that..... When I met her last time, I said that I wanted to send her a fine silk handkerchief, I made Su-er to deliver it this morning, but she returned with this kind of conclusion." Thinking of the two of them who were having fun together in the past, Lou Xi Wu could not help to cry.

They were still together envisioning their future before, but now they were already separated by life and death, she was even more sorrowful, it was unexpectedly a violent death, she had seen many of this separation in life and death. Knowing that she was not good to comfort people, Zhuo Qing could only pat her shoulder, comfortingly said: "You must not feel too sad, the police..... The government office will find the murderer who kills her, they will not let her die with grievance."

Sniffing her nose, Lou Xi Wu whispered in a low voice: "Nobody knew whether or not a person who did it?"

"What did you say?" Zhuo Qing did not believe her own ears.

Lou Xi Wu took the handkerchief that was handed over by Su-er, then she was gently wiping her tears, while saying in a low voice, with a bit frightened: “The people inside the capital are anxious, especially the aristocratic families, later the famous families, every home that has a young lady is anxious if she will meet with any unexpected circumstance. I heard that there were already three to four young ladies that had been murdered, when they found out, all of them were on their own beds gracefully, the beds and the floors were filled with blood entirely. The body did not have any wound, the only thing that was missing was her heart?”

“What?” Zhuo Qing frowned, there was no wound but the heart was missing, how could it possible, or the murderer’s suture skill was very good, or it was just Lou Xi Wu’s gossip. But, there could be a possibility, at the minimum, that there were several murder cases related to the aristocratic families’ daughters in the capital. The murderer’s method was cruel, it was possible that this was a serial killer case.

No wonder, the Prime Minister’s manor suddenly took some precautions with the security like this, Xi Wu was also included in the murderer’s possible victim.

But strictly speaking, if this murderer only picked the daughters of the aristocratic families, what similarities did their bodies have that triggered the murderer’s motive to kill?!

Zhuo Qing was just thinking deeply, Lou Xi Wu suddenly approached her, she whispered in her ear with an extreme mysterious manner: “All of the young ladies who died, their hearts were missing. The others did not say this, but their manors were being guarded strictly like this, but the Imperial bodyguards did not see any unusual condition either and the murderer could still remove Princess An Ning’s heart. Dying inside her room by herself, there was some rumors outside, that it was not a person who did it, but it was rather a demonic monster that liked to eat people’s hearts.”

Zhuo Qing snorted disdainfully: “Ridiculous, the so called demonic monster who kills people, it is nothing but a murderer whose skill in killing is brutal or peculiar, and make people to be frightened. Because they can not find the murderer for a period of time, the frightened people have fabricated the story, nothing more.”

Zhuo Qing's face filled with disdain, Lou Xi Wu pulled back her shoulder, and asked in a low voice: "You are not afraid?" Even though she did not believe with this demon that ate hearts either, but when she heard it, she still felt frightened! Their bodies did not have any wound, but only missing their hearts, would this not let people be afraid?

"Afraid of what?" Zhuo Qing broke into laughter, she answered jokingly: "If you say that it is a demonic monster, then I am not afraid, the heaven and earth have righteousness."

Her long shape eyebrows slightly raised, her eyes flashed through a trace of sharp edge, Zhuo Qing with a cold voice, smiled and said: "If what you say about the murderer is true, I am very interested to know, what kind of skill this evil person uses to remove the heart!"

He could remove the person's heart perfectly like this, if this person's profession was not a killer, then he would be a doctor.

Lou Xi Wu frighteningly swallowed her saliva, and went to sit on the side, she suddenly felt, that sometimes this sister in law was strange, this kind of frightening matter, yet she would have an enthusiastic look.....

Sian's notes:

The 3rd woman who died, her name & title used these characters 安宁郡主 (An Ning Jun Zhu). We couldn't really figure out what her title was so we decided to use Noble Woman instead of Princess (公主 – gong zhu). I went back and changed her title to be Princess. I'm watching nirvana in fire drama for the 4th time and found out that Ni Huang (the female lead) has this jun zhu title also and her title is being translated as Princess. But I do want to caution that this title of a Princess is slightly different than Princess (gong zhu) Chao Yun aka Yan Ru Xuan who has a direct blood with the current Emperor. The title of jun zhu doesn't necessarily need any blood relation with the imperial family as the Emperor can issue an edict to make some of the prominent family daughters to receive this jun zhu title. For example as Princess Ni Huang in nirvana in fire.

# Record of Washed Grievances (By Qian Lu) Chapter 85: Who Would Be The Next Victim

Over 3,250 words.

This chapter was translated by Sian for <https://nuttyisprocrasinating.wordpress.com> only and edited by Din2.

Lou Xi Wu frighteningly swallowed her saliva, went to sit on the side, she suddenly felt, that sometimes this sister in law was really strange, this kind of frightening matter, yet she would have an enthusiastic look.

Nevertheless, Zhuo Qing sank into her own train of thought, this case, the skill that the murderer used to kill was very unusual, picking this kind of unusual method to kill people was usually a chain violent crime (serial killer). Otherwise, just trying to provoke the police, or just to manufacture a terror atmosphere to satisfy the murderer's objective, or maybe it was for the purpose of some abnormal hobby. She was very interested with this case, but Dan Yu Lan did not come to look for her help, it seemed that this case was not very difficult to solve.

Of course, she did not know, Lou Xi Yan already gave an order, not to allow anybody to disturb her rest and recuperation. Dan Yu Lan came over once, but he could not see her.

The two people had their own thinkings, both of them did not pay attention at the distinct, cold and tall figure who came out from the courtyard door, Su-er saw the person clearly, hurriedly said: "Miss, Su Gongzi is here."

Lou Xi Wu and Zhuo Qing recovered, immediately looked at the door, both of them were somewhat absent minded. Under the sunshine during summertime, Su Mu Feng with a white clothing slowly came, his personality was exactly like his name, like a breath of fresh air, just liked his body. There was always a distinct chilly atmosphere around him, the restless blistering hot weather did not appear to be able to be closed to his body. That kind of distinct cold and graceful personality, that made people not to dare to come near but also unwilling to be

far from him.

Lou Xi Wu hurriedly got up, slightly saluted and said: "It is good to see Gongzi." He was the most graceful and talented man whom she ever saw, incorrect, besides elder brother, he was the most graceful and talented man, she admired him from the bottom of her heart.

Zhuo Qing was more curious about him, one person could have many kinds of personality traits, he could be cold and detached towards someone, but also warm and gentle like this, she actually had not seen many.

Su Mu Feng sensed Zhuo Qing's probing line of sight, he nodded towards her, Zhuo Qing politely returned the greeting also.

Looking towards Lou Xi Wu, Su Mu Feng faintly smiled, and answered: "Miss Lou, do not need to be too polite, today will be the last lesson, I simply come to tell you this in person."

"Why, then, I will not be able to see you?!" Lou Xi Wu urgently said: "We only have four classes ah! I still want to ask many guidances to Gongzi!"

Lou Xi Wu merely replied unconsciously, she really still had many questions about the zither skill that she wanted to learn from him, he was a very good teacher. Sometimes he seemed to give instructions randomly, but she could see and still understand it, she wanted to understand things that she did not understand originally. But she did not know, that careless sentence however, made one figure who was outside and wanted to leave, to become stiffed for quite a while.

Zhuo Qing secretly laughed, from her angle, she could see Jing Sa's silhouette, he was sending off Su Mu Feng from the courtyard door, and intending to leave, who would have thought that that young girl's words could stop him from going outside the courtyard. It seemed that Jing Sa cared about Xi Wu, a lot more than what she had thought previously.

Su Mu Feng seemed to have used to this kind of request to stay, his face did not express any praise or happiness, he only indifferently answered: "Your fingers technique is already very proficient, I can not instruct you on anything more."

But Lou Xi Wu was not willing to miss this good opportunity, she really liked to play the zither, she, herself could also do some musics, they were just not so good. With great difficulty, Su Gongzi came, but why he wanted to leave quickly, Lou Xi Wu could not help to urge him to stay one more time: “But my fingers method does not always have adequate flowing ah, moreover, I still have several musics, I want to let Gongzi to point out for a few directions, then you give me a few more lessons, ok!! All right?”

Lou Xi Wu with heart filled with hope, looked at Su Mu Feng, but she did not know the man whose skin color was originally suntanned, his complexion was frighteningly darker now.

“Ahem!” (Trying to get LXW’s attention), Zhuo Qing firmly made a sound, she said with a low voice in Lou Xi Wu’s ear: “Jing Sa is outside the courtyard.”

Lou Xi Wu stared blankly at first, then raised her eyes to look, from her angle, she could only see that Jing Sa was clenching his fist on the lower corner of his jacket, her heart was happy, maybe he still cared about her. He would normally ignore her completely, she must make him angry this time!

Making a decision in her heart, Lou Xi Wu approached Su Mu Feng even closer, half throwing a tantrum, she said: “Su Gongzi, is it alright!”

Zhuo Qing narrowed her eyes, somebody’s blue vein on his hand was almost burst out outside the courtyard, very well, since Xi Wu wanted to make him jealous, she would just help her, ok. Zhuo Qing seized the opportunity to say also: “Xi Wu really admires Gongzi’s zither skill all along, it is with great difficulty that you can teach her this time, she is happy for this reason for quite a while. So Gongzi looks at Xi Wu’s sincerity, you just stay for several more days, ok.”

Lou Xi Wu suddenly approached, Su Mu Feng did not look like he used to this, slightly leaning his body, he answered: “Thank you for Miss’ good meaning, Su mou is actually occupied by an important matter.”

Looking at Jing Sa who appeared to be very nervous because of her, Lou Xi Wu was playing along happily, to one’s surprise, she became more intense, she suddenly pulled Su Mu Feng’s sleeve, lovingly laughed and said: “The fingers method, composing, melody, I still have so many things that I do not understand, what can I do? When Gongzi is not busy, can I go to look for you?”

Su Mu Feng lightly and seamlessly pulled his sleeve back, immediately declined: "Su mou likes to wander all over the place, normally there is no fixed residence during the day, I am afraid that I can not clear the confusion for the young lady."

Actually, Lou Xi Wu did not care very much about Su Mu Feng's rejection, she actually cared more about Jing Sa's reaction, Zhuo Qing felt somewhat hurt, this young girl became addicted, she forgot how to stop before going too far. Not to mention, Su Mu Feng's whose complexion was always tranquil, already looking somewhat unpleasant, the person outside was already provoked enough. If they kept playing this game, one could not say if it would have any opposite result.

"Ok, you do not have to be confused with the fingers method or composing or melody, what is more important in playing the zither is the environment, mental state, intention to play the instrument, even if the zither skill is not high, it still can move people's feeling. On the other hand, a better skill or beautiful composition music, they are just some notes if there is no emotion in it." Zhuo Qing hurriedly pulled Lou Xi Wu's hand, while she was saying some nonsense, she was also pulling Lou Xi Wu to her side.

Lou Xi Wu's set her heart on someone who was outside the courtyard, Zhuo Qing only said it casually also, who would have thought that Su Mu Feng unexpectedly nodded his head slowly, praising and admiringly smiled, he said: "Miss Qing is sure enough knowledgeable about the zither and knows how to play it for the people. Miss Lou, you have a famous master in your family, she can give directions to you, there is no need to say more about Su mou."

"But I want you to teach me ah!" Lou Xi Wu still continued to provoke the person who was outside the courtyard, sure enough, as Zhuo Qing's expectation, Lou Xi Wu just finished her words, Jing Sa who was outside the courtyard suddenly left quickly without turning his head around.

Lou Xi Wu stared blankly, she was disappointed and somewhat anxious, he would not think that she really liked Su Gongzi, right!! Why was he so foolish like this!!

Lou Xi Wu's mood suddenly changed to be very gloomy, Zhuo Qing naturally knew why, Su Mu Feng seemed to be able to see a little clue also, the three people inside the courtyard were all silent, the atmosphere was somewhat

awkward.

Lou Xi Wu was immersing in her own childish feeling, Zhuo Qing and Su Mu Feng were staring at each other's eyes, without knowing what to do, Zhuo Qing could only continue the subject from a moment ago, smilingly said: "Su Gongzi is courteous, I was sick before, the fingers method, whatever tuning melody, I do not remember any of it, I can not even play the zither now, do not say teaching other people even more, I have only spoken without thinking a moment ago, and make Gongzi to mock me."

Su Mu Feng did not resemble an ordinary person or the kind who could comfort her unfortunate situation, he rather smiled indifferently and said: "Just as what Miss has said a moment ago, playing zither is only about paying attention to the mental state, environment, nothing more. That melody, fingers method, one can forget about it afterwards, it is not important at all?!"

Zhuo Qing stared blankly, she did not anticipate that he would answer like this, for a zither player, melody, fingers method, the skill could not be said that it was his entire profession, but it was also an important part, right. He unexpectedly could be so confident and at ease, the sentence 'forget about it afterwards, it is not important at all', putting it clearly, Zhuo Qing, on the contrary, was really somewhat admired his indifferent and unconventional method, she appreciated him more.

Zhuo Qing sincerely urged him to stay and she said: "Xi Wu really wants you to stay sincerely, if it is ok with you, there is no harm to point out a few more things for her." If Xi Wu could really learn the zither from him properly, needless to say, the zither skill would grow. If she could learn half of his approach to handle with some affairs, then it would be regarded as a benefit.

Su Mu Feng was no longer perfunctory this time, he rather shook his head softly, and answered truly: "The capital is not peaceful recently, I think Prime Minister Lou also does not wish the moment of danger like this, furthermore, there is a stranger enters and exits at the Prime Minister's manor frequently."

Lou Xi Wu finally recovered from her self ego confusing state, she just happened to hear Su Mu Feng's answer, inevitably and urgently said: "Gongzi is not a bad person, moreover, my elder brother is also the one who especially

requests you to come, how can he not wish for you to continue teaching me!”

Su Mu Feng indifferently smiled but did not say anything, his intention was already a certainty, Zhuo Qing did not urge him to stay any longer, the words he said were actually making sense, one had to be very careful at this time.

Lightly patting Lou Xi Wu’s shoulder to make her to keep her calm, Zhuo Qing generously smiled and said: “Then, ok, since Gongzi has already decided to go, we will not force you to stay, I wish that Xi Wu will have another opportunity to get some advices from Gongzi.”

“Miss Qing is courteous, Su mou will bid goodbye.” Usually when he left, Su Mu Feng left confidently and at ease, as if there was not any matter, it was his lingering personality that one was reluctant to part with.

\*\*\*\*\*

At night.

Lan Yue Building

Zhuo Qing supported her chin, holding on the candle light, she conveniently flipped over the various medical books that Lou Xi Yan found for her. Stretching her waist, she looked outside the window, the moon was already slanting to the west gradually, it should already passed twelve o’clock, right. After the evening meal, Xi Yan only said one sentence to make her rest early and then he left, he had not returned up until now, she did not know whether or not there was anything that happened.

Xi Wu’s mood was not always good in the afternoon, she felt that it was necessary to speak with Xi Yan about Xi Wu’s matter, she was sleeping a lot these past few days, she was not very tired now. While she was flipping over the medical book, she was waiting for Lou Xi Yan to return. Not too long, Zhuo Qing heard some light footsteps, the door was immediately pushed open also.

“Xi Yan.” Zhuo Qing lowly called out.

Seeing clearly that it was her, Lou Xi Yan walked to her side, and sat down, with a somewhat displeased tone, he said: “Why are you not sleeping yet?”

It was indeed late, Zhuo Qing did not beat around the bushes, immediately asked: “I have one matter, I always want to ask you, do you or do you not plan

on Xi Wu's wedding?"

Lou Xi Yan stared blankly, he did not anticipate that Qing-er waited for him for the whole evening, to ask about Xi Wu's wedding?! Lightly shaking his head, Lou Xi Yan smilingly said: "Xi Wu is still young, we can discuss this again when I see that she has someone whom she's taking a fancy to."

Zhuo Qing's eyes were bright: "Your meaning is, if she has someone whom she's taking a fancy to, you will not oppose it, even if the person is not suitable according to the family's rule?"

Lou Xi Yan broke into laughter: "What do you think?"

Zhuo Qing slightly stared blankly, and could not help to laugh, she and Lou Xi Yan were also not suitable according to the family's rule either. He did not have to marry her as a wife, he was not a person who looked at the differences in one's family status, she asked him like this, it was somewhat insulting to Xi Yan.

Zhuo Qing felt apologetic towards him and smiled, Lou Xi Yan did not even mind this, softly encircling her waist, and bringing her to his bosom. Lou Xi Yan softly rested his head on her shoulder, gently smiled and said: "As long as the person whom she likes has a good moral character, and has a sense of responsibility, a man who is good to her, I will not oppose."

His light breathing made her somewhat itchy, Zhuo Qing softly pulled her neck back, but she did not retreat backwards. Thinking, Zhuo Qing asked once again: "Then, if other people oppose, you will support her also, is that right?" Not opposing did not mean supporting either, if he supported her, Xi Wu's feeling could be unhindered by half.

Lifting up his head, Lou Xi Yan lightly raised his eyebrows, faintly smiled, he asked: "Does Xi Wu tell you that the person whom she likes is not suitable according to the family's rule?" How did he not know it, these two people's affections were already advanced to this stage?!

This facial expression was wrong, Zhuo Qing flashed through a divine light, smilingly scolded: "Do not tell me that you can not see it!" Even she could see it, Xi Yan was so intelligent, there was no reason not to see it, he wanted to play with her!!

His Qing-er seemed to be more and more intelligent, slightly brushing over her hair to make her cool down, and fiddling her hair with his fingertips, Lou Xi Yan lightly sighed and said: "Jing Sa is actually a pretty good man, if Xi Wu wants to marry him, I will approve, but I will never order Jing Sa to take her as his wife!"

The affair between a male and female, how could he get involved with it!

He really knew!! Thinking that Jing Sa and Xi Wu were together every time, Zhuo Qing guessed and said: "Jing Sa appears to have a knot in this mind, is it the so called senior and junior separation?" (In this case, I think it's more servant & mistress relationship).

Lou Xi Yan helplessly nodded his head, Jing Sa was very stubborn and he insisted on it, it made him to have a headache also.

It was really difficult to handle, but..... it was not like there was no way!!

The smile on her face was somewhat strange, Lou Xi Yan smilingly said: "What are you thinking now?"

"Nothing." She could only tell Xi Wu this way, he absolutely could not tell Xi Yan!!

She must have thought of a way, moreover, it surely was not a right way!! Lou Xi Yan broke into laughter, but he did not plan to expose her. If she could make Jing Sa to untie this knot in his mind, using some emergency measures, he did not have any objection either. But since she did not want to tell him, he would just treat it as if he did not know anything, and that would be good.

Anyway, if there was someone who could help him solve this problem, he would also be happy!!

The corner of her mouth softly raised, Zhuo Qing wanted to think thoroughly and guess what this fox was thinking, she still needed a little bit of time!

Stroking lightly her soft hair, Lou Xi Yan lovingly smiled and said: "Wife, you have already finished asking the question, can we go to bed now?" (See below).

Zhuo Qing broke into laughter, barely wanted to reply, there was a burst of chaotic and rushing voice from the outside of the courtyard all of a sudden. The sound of numerous and disorderly footsteps went towards this one direction,

the swaying brilliant rays of the torches felt so bright from the inside of the room.

Zhuo Qing was puzzled by it: “What are the voices from outside?” It was already very late!

Nevertheless, Lou Xi Yan’s complexion was suddenly stiff, urgently said: “Oh no, Xi Wu!”

Sian’s notes:

Oh oh... What happened??!!! LXY is afraid that the serial killer gets to Xi Wu???

Three quarter of this chapter was just a bunch of baloney about LXW & ZQ’s discussion trying to make Su Mu Feng stay to become LXW’s teacher. This is nonsense!!! With that said, sorry for another cliffhanger... The author was dragging things for 3/4 of a chapter and then leaving us with a cliffhanger again... This really feels like watching an hour and 10 minutes of Korean drama. I get bored for 55 minutes and then it gets excited for the last 15 min of the episode.

The raw character for Madam is using 夫人-furen. This appellation can mean Madam, Mrs or lady. When other people, except her husband, call a woman “furen”, it does mean Madam. So Jing Sa, Mo Bai, Dan Yu Lan will call Zhuo Qing, Lou furen which I translate to Madam Lou. Sometimes informally, furen can mean wifey or wife if a husband is the one who calls his wife “furen”. I’m always confused whether I should translate furen as wifey or wife when LXY is the one who calls ZQ, “furen”. Using the word wifey/wife is kind of nauseating (in my opinion), especially during this ancient time when everything is supposed to be formal and proper. So that’s why I always translate the word furen as Madam regardless who says it. On the other hand, keeping it as Madam when LXY calls ZQ is kind of weird because it sounds too formal, especially when LXY is using the “furen” words in a teasing manner like in this chapter. For now, I’ll keep it as Madam but if you have any other suggestion, I’m open to change how to translate the appellation.

# Record of Washed Grievances (By Qian Lu) Chapter 86: Accepting A Mistake And Adapting To It

Over 2,450 words.

This chapter was translated by Sian for <https://nuttysprocrasinating.wordpress.com> only and edited by Din2.

When Lou Xi Yan and Zhuo Qing left Lan Yue building, the Imperial bodyguards inside the Prime Minister's manor came from several directions to surround Lou Xi Wu's courtyard. The hearts of those two people did not have any good premonition, with mutual understanding, they ran towards Lou Xi Wu's courtyard.

When they entered the center of the courtyard, they just happened to see Jing Sa was chasing after a tall and thin man who was wearing a gray clothing and jumped out of the back of the courtyard, several of the Imperial bodyguards also chased after and went out. Lou Xi Yan's most worry was still Lou Xi Wu's safety, her door was open, so it could be seen clearly that the murderer already entered into the room, not knowing if Xi Wu..... Their hearts were already up on their throats, entering inside the room, and hastily crossing over the screen to rush into the bedroom. They could only see that Lou Xi Wu was lying down and motionless gracefully on the bed, her upper garment was completely taken off, the only thing left was her pink undergarment covering the chest and abdomen. The knots on her undergarment was already untied, it was slanting and hanging on her chest, the lower half of her clothing was a white trouser. There was no bloodstain on her body, the inside of the room did not the smell like the reeking blood either, only a faintly smell of sandalwood.

Lou Xi Wu's body did not have any wound either, both of their hearts were somewhat relieved a little.

Xi Wu's clothing was in disarrayed, even though he was her elder brother, it was not appropriate for him to step forward, Lou Xi Yan stood at the bedside, tilted his head to the side. Zhuo Qing hurriedly pulled a silk quilt on the bed to

cover Lou Xi Wu's body that was exposed properly, but she did not make any movement at all. Zhuo Qing's heart was anxious again.

"Xi Wu!" Lightly patting her cheek, Zhuo Qing thought that she lost consciousness. But looking carefully, Xi Wu's eyes were slightly opened, staring to look at one direction in a daze, with a dull and numb appearance. Even though she was shaking her shoulder, she did not react whatsoever.

"Xi Wu! Wake up, wake up!" How could it be like this?! Zhuo Qing leaned over her body, gently looked over at her eyelids, using her hand and swaying it in front of her eyes, her pupils responded normally, could it be that she was frightened excessively that caused her own self isolation? Slapping her cheek a little harder one more time, Zhuo Qing said loudly at the side of her ear: "Xi Wu, it is alright, you wake up."

Hearing Zhuo Qing's voice that was louder all of a sudden, Lou Xi Yan anxiously said: "How is she?"

Zhuo Qing shook her head, lowered her voice to say: "Her body does not have any scar, but the situation is not that good."

Zhuo Qing's tone was heavy, Lou Xi Yan did not care about any etiquette, hurriedly turned around to look towards Lou Xi Wu, even though her eyes were opened, nevertheless, her expression was empty and lacking any soul.

"Xi Wu." Lowly calling her for several times, Lou Xi Wu did not response either.

Xi Wu's situation appeared to be bad! Zhuo Qing slightly frowned her brows, she said softly at Lou Xi Yan's ear: "She may receive an extreme frightening situation, so she seals off her own self, you try to speak with her, and make her feel safe, maybe it can wake her up."

Lou Xi Yan nodded his head, holding Lou Xi Wu's shoulder, to help her sit down, her eyes just happened to look at him, lightly caressing Xi Wu's cheek, Lou Xi Yan lightly coaxed and said to her over and over again: "Xi Wu, be good, do not be afraid, elder brother is by your side, can you talk anything to elder brother?"

Several times afterwards, Lou Xi Wu still did not response, Lou Xi Yan's voice was louder and louder, and he was also more irritable. Zhuo Qing lightly patted

Lou Xi Yan's shoulder from behind, quietly comforted and said: "It is alright, just continue to talk to her, she will surely wake up."

He only had this one younger sister, facing his own relative to become like this, she believed that nobody could be cool headed.

Lou Xi Yan's back was in front of her, Zhuo Qing could see his expression clearly, he merely nodded his head slightly, speaking one more time, his voice was already calm by a lot.

Holding Lou Xi Wu lightly to his bosom, his slender hand was patting her back lightly, Lou Xi Yan used his muffled voice that made people to feel at ease, he called out gently: "Xi Wu, it is unlikely that someone can harm you, if you are afraid, just cry, elder brother will protect you."

After the 'Xi Wu, Xi Wu.....' calling over and over again for a while, Lou Xi Wu finally moved, her eyes softly blinked for several times afterwards, gradually regaining a little radiance. Looking that she finally had reaction, Lou Xi Yan and Zhuo Qing could take a few long breaths, but Lou Xi Wu's facial expression was still at a loss: "Elder brother..... What are you doing in my room?"

Lou Xi Yan and Zhuo Qing looked one glance at each other, but they remained calm and collected, Zhuo Qing tried out and said: "Do you not know what has happened?"

Lou Xi Wu with a mysterious face answered: "What has happened?"

Their expressions were really strange, Lou Xi Wu unconsciously held her arms tightly, but she unexpectedly discovered, that she did not wear any clothing on her body!!

"Ah!" Shrieking, Lou Xi Wu pulled the thin quilt closely, with a look of panic, she went to the direction of the inner side of the bed, her head was also buried in the quilt.

Lou Xi Yan was somewhat awkward and he got up, Zhuo Qing slightly laughed at him, and said: "You go out first, I am here."

"Very well." Looking one glance at Lou Xi Wu who appeared to regain her normal appearance, Lou Xi Yan quietly retreated and went out.

Lightly pulling the quilt, Zhuo Qing quietly said: "Ok, Xi Wu, your elder brother has already gone out, it is only me."

For a very long time, Lou Xi Wu's complexion was slightly red, and she lifted her head: "I, how can I....." not have any clothing! She actually could not ask it, why did she wake up and become like this?! Lou Xi Wu was somewhat irritable when she asked: "What is going on after all?"

Zhuo Qing did not intend to conceal it from her, and bluntly said: "I think, I went into your room in the afternoon, then we talked about that person who took the women's hearts. He picked you as his next target, but fortunately, we discovered it early, he did not have his way. You really did not remember anything what had happened tonight?" She was until now, the only person who was still alive after being attacked, she hoped that she would provide some useful clues.

"I....." Finished hearing Zhuo Qing's words, Lou Xi Wu's complexion was white in a split second, her hands could not help to tremble. She did not know if it was because of fear, or because she really could not remember it. Lou Xi Wu covered her head, slightly trembled and with a hurried voice, she answered: "I did not remember it, I only remembered that I went to bed to rest, after that, I heard a very disturbing noise, just to see you were in front of me, I really did not know the rest of it." Her brain was still in disarray, her memory appeared to start from when she lied down on the bed, then everything else was missing.

Why did that murderer pick her? Did that person just kill Noble Woman An Ning? How many more innocent women did he want to harm!! She unconsciously held her hand into a fist, since Lou Xi Wu lifted her head, her eyes faintly showed a layer of mist, because of fear, her voice was somewhat trembling. But she already made an effort to maintain her calm, watching attentively at Zhuo Qing, Lou Xi Wu asked: "What about that murderer? Did we catch him?"

"Not yet. It appears that the murderer's target is you, I do not know whether or not he will appear one more time, so you are in danger now. He has already committed many crimes in a row, moreover, he does not have any desire to stop, I think the government office surely wishes to solve this case as quickly as possible. You are the only survivor until now, the people from the government

office should intervene very quickly.” Zhuo Qing was somewhat disappointed, she originally thought that she could get some clues about the murderer, but Xi Wu did not know anything clearly. On one hand, her lifeless appearance a moment ago, it was impossible because she received a terrifying situation so she protected herself, so did the murderer use some type of a sedated fragrance to control Xi Wu’s consciousness? It was a possibility.

Taking a deep breath, making her own mood to gradually tranquil a little, Lou Xi Wu spontaneously asked: “Then, what can I do?” She also hoped that the government office could solve this case as soon as possible, and capture the murderer, so there would not have any other innocent woman who would die tragically.

Looking that she had experienced and encountered a near death calamity, this young girl who was still shivering because of fear, but she pretended to be calmed and wished that she could give a contribution, Zhuo Qing felt somewhat sorry for her. Lightly stretching her hand to embrace her shoulder, she comforted with a soft voice: “I know that you can not remember anything now, you relax first, do not compel yourselves too much, if you strive your hardest slowly, you may recall it, and hope that you can give the government office’s people some clues. Do not be afraid, we will not make you to meet any mishap.”

Lou Xi Wu slowly leaned her head against Zhuo Qing’s shoulder, the gentle and soft patting made her to feel very warm, her mother passed away a long time ago, she did not have any sisters. Even though elder brother loved her dearly, but he could not embrace her, comfort her, she always wished to have a family who could keep her company like this, she liked this sister in law.

Lightly nodding, Lou Xi Wu sincerely said: “Thank you for saving me.”

Zhuo Qing stared blankly, when this young girl opened her eyes to see her and Lou Xi Yan, she misunderstood it, Zhuo Qing smilingly said: “It was not us who saved you, I heard a disturbance and hurriedly came over, I saw Jing Sa was fighting with the murderer when I came to the courtyard a moment ago, he should be the one who saved you.”

“What?” Lou Xi Wu suddenly sat up, with a panic voice, she called out: “Then, I look like this, it was not only the murderer who saw me like this, but he also saw

this?!” How could she see other people in the future, what kind of face still she had to see Jing Sa!!

The more she thought, the more she felt sad, her hands on her knees, and she curled up her own body like a ball, the humiliation feeling made her unable to stop her sobbing.

Zhuo Qing softly sighed, smilingly said: “Do not cry, this is actually good.”

“Good?” Lou Xi Wu lifted her head, removing her tears and looking at Zhuo Qing, her body was unexpectedly seen by another man, Jing Sa also saw it, how could she endure this, what was good about this?!

“Do you extremely like Jing Sa, and insist on marrying him?” She wanted to clarify this first, if this young girl was simply infatuated with him temporarily, she did not need to meddle in her situation.

“Yes.” Firmly nodding her head, soon after, Lou Xi Wu discouragingly and mumbly said: “But I am like this now, I do not have any face to marry him anymore!!”

“Fool, there is nothing wrong with you at the moment, the murderer has only taken off the outside garment, nothing more, you are still innocent!” Zhuo Qing did not know whether to laugh or cry, was it not just seeing the upper body, moreover, there was still an undergarment that covered the chest and abdomen! How could she be ashamed to get married like this!!

“But.....” Even though she said it like this, if a girl let some people to see on her body after all, how was it good!! Lou Xi Wu with a defeated manner, lowered her head.

Looking as if her heart was so discouraged, Zhuo Qing approached and leaned on her side, she said in her ear with a low voice: “This time is actually considered as a very huge opportunity, and it can test Jing Sa whether or not he is worthy to be relied on and if he is a good man, if he is, then you just happen to fulfill your wish!”

“Really? Then.....” Zhuo Qing’s words really made her to be tempted, but she did not dare to believe either. Swallowing her saliva, Lou Xi Wu nervously asked with a low voice: “What do I have to do?”

Zhuo Qing craftily smiled: “Come over.”

Lou Xi Wu nibbled her cherry lips, she was somewhat nervous and somewhat excited, and leaned to come over. Zhuo Qing lowly said in her ear several sentences, she just saw that Lou Xi Wu’s face was bursting in red and white, frowning for one moment and then staring for another moment. With great difficulty, Zhuo Qing finished speaking, Lou Xi Wu embarrassingly asked: “Can I really do this ah?!”

Zhuo Qing’s hands were on her chest, confidently smiled and said: “Then, we will just have to watch you.”

Clenching her teeth, Lou Xi Wu answered with a loud voice: “Fine!”

Staking it all, for Jing Sa’s love, she would be willing to do anything!

Sian’s notes:

Oh oh... Zhuo Qing who always has a yellow thought, what was her crafty suggestion that she whispered to LXW???

A couple of things, I changed the term furen from Madam to wife in the previous chapter. So whenever LXY calls ZQ furen, it’ll be translated as wife from now on. I also changed the term jun zhu from noble woman to princess. Remember that the third victim was An Ning jun zhu. I used noble woman, as the real word for princess is actually gong zhu (e.g. Chao Yun gong zhu aka Yan Ru Xuan). However, I’m watching nirvana in fire again (for the 4th time, btw) and finds out that Ni Huang (the female lead) has the same title jun zhu and her title is being translated as princess. So I will also use princess for the third victim’s title. One thing though the title gong zhu is always associated & has a direct blood relation to the emperor, however, the title jun zhu doesn’t necessarily have any blood relation to the emperor and I believe this title can be conferred by the Emperor’s edict. Let me know if I’m wrong about this...

# Record of Washed Grievances (By Qian Lu) Chapter 87: Requesting Help From Gu Yun

Over 3,300 words.

This chapter was translated by Sian for <https://nuttymiscprocrasinating.wordpress.com> only and edited by Din2.

Lou Xi Wu just changed her clothes properly, there was a sound of a soft knock on the door, Zhuo Qing looked one glance at her, Lou Xi Wu nodded her head, Zhuo Qing raised her voice to say: "Come in, ok."

Entering the inner room was Lou Xi Yan. Looking at Xi Wu's complexion that was in a good spirit by a lot, Lou Xi Yan lovingly patting her shoulder, quietly asked: "Are you feeling better?"

Nodding her head, and knowing and she made her elder brother to worry, Lou Xi Wu strongly nodded, she candidly smiled as much as possible and said: "Elder brother, you can be at ease, I am already fine."

The door was opened, and they could hear the voices of some people who were chatting, Zhuo Qing asked: "Did Jing Sa capture that person?"

Lou Xi Yan shook his head, he was worry that Lou Xi Wu would be afraid, simply smiled faintly and said: "That person will be captured."

Jing Sa's martial art was impressive, there were many Imperial bodyguards who were pursuing together, the murderer unexpectedly could still escape! This person's martial art was either unfathomably good, or he could be very familiar with the terrain of the Prime Minister's manor and the capital.

Xi Wu's spirit seemed to be really good, Lou Xi Yan quietly asked: "Dan Daren wants to ask you a few questions, is that ok?"

Lou Xi Wu already prepared her heart earlier, she nodded her head and answered: "Ok."

Pulling Lou Xi Wu's hand, the three people went through the screen to come

outside to the small reception, Lou Xi Yan just said to the person who was outside the door: “Dan Daren, please come in, ok.”

Dan Yu Lan seemed to have been waiting outside the room earlier, the sentence was just finished, his tall figure was already in front of the door, Lou Xi Wu was a girl from a wealthy family after all. Following behind Dan Yu Lan to come in was only two young people, the rest of the bailiffs were waiting outside the courtyard.

Entering the inner room, Dan Yu Lan gave his courtesy by slightly cupping his hands in greeting: “Respect to Prime Minister Lou, Madam, Miss Lou.”

The two young people who were behind Dan Yu Lan, one already scanned the left and right areas with his eyes once he was inside, a tall and thin man whose look was somewhat unrestrained. Crossing over, another one whose skin was somewhat fair and clear, sharp eyes, entered into the small reception room, he was looking at the surrounding situation afterwards.

Estimating that they wanted to collect the evidence, but felt hindrance because here was the lady chamber of the honorable Prime Minister’s manor after all, they did not act recklessly. Zhuo Qing slightly smiled and said: “Dan Daren, we have not touched anything inside the room, you can tell your team to take a look and collect whatever evidence, Xi Wu is somewhat tired, if you have any question, you can just ask immediately, ok.”

They were the most headache, every time when there was a homicide case that happened and they had to collect the evidence, the family member would already move the stuffs inside the room and the corpse. This woman could think to preserve the evidence, this made Cheng Hang and Lu Jin were curious about her, their eyes looked towards the young woman who was sitting next to Prime Minister Lou at the same time, there were two scars on her cheek that destroyed her originally and extremely beautiful complexion. Feeling their line of sights, she still smiled at them and nodded her head, her expression was calm, she looked in high spirits, and made people could not help to look at her bright eyes.

“Very well.” Dan Yu Lan said quietly to the man behind him: “Cheng Hang, gather the clues as quickly as possible.”

“Yes.” Cheng Hang entered the inner room, Lu Jin had already taken out a

piece of paper and pen also, Dan Yu Lan went straight to business, and immediately asked: "Miss Lou, did you see the murderer's appearance clearly?"

Lou Xi Wu shook her head, smoothly said: "I did not, I did not know what had happened, I only remembered that I went to bed to rest, after that my memory just began to fuzzy, later when I was awoken, my elder brother was already by my side."

She said vaguely, Zhuo Qing calmly added and said: "We heard the voices at that time, so we came over hurriedly, Jing Sa was just chasing after the murderer to leave, Xi Wu's mind was unconscious at that time, moreover, her clothing was in disarrayed, but she was not violated."

Xi Wu's complexion was slightly red, she lowered her head, Zhuo Qing patted her hand to appease her, a moment afterwards, Lou Xi Wu's complexion was restored to normal.

He had already inquired Jing Sa outside a moment ago, he said that the murderer was wearing a gray mask, he could not see his appearance clearly. The only survivor, Lou Xi Wu, was unexpectedly lost consciousness all along, he reckoned that she would not be able to offer any clue.

Dan Yu Lan was somewhat disappointed, but he was not willing to let any detail slip by, and continued to ask: "Before you went to sleep, did you find anything that happened that was not normal?"

Lou Xi Wu was thinking, and shaking her head: "I did not ah, there was nothing that was not normal, Su-er gave me a bowl of ginseng soup to drink, then I lied down."

"Then where is Miss Su-er?" Did the ginseng soup had some medicine?

Lou Xi Wu clearly did not know where Su-er was? Worrying and looking at Lou Xi Yan, Lou Xi Yan was lightly patting her shoulder, while comforting her, he said to Dan Yu Lan: "Su-er is Xi Wu's personal maid, she was resting inside the small room, but she was also unconscious now, the Imperial physician was just giving her treatment."

Lou Xi Wu's personal maid was also unconscious, it was the same as the maids from the other three victims, they were all unconscious at that time, when they

were awoken, they only saw the corpses, the murderer should also use the same technique this time, but he was discovered early so he could not continue with his plan, that was all.

“Do you feel there is anything wrong with you now?” If there was any drug, it should still have some reactions.

Lou Xi Wu blinked, she could only shake her head: “No, I feel good, I am only somewhat tired.....”

Lou Xi Wu’s answer made Dan Yu Lan to feel defeated one more time, but he did not show any of his disappointment, when he faced Lou Xi Wu, he still asked: “Did Miss go out of the manor recently? What kind of people did you have contact with in these two days?”

“I went to the Palace once a few days before, then I did not go out of the manor again, I was only with Su-er and sister in law these past few days, did not have any contact with other people.” She was rarely going out of the manor, the thousand silk pavilion’s master had not finished drawing the pattern of the wedding dress. Sister in law was feeling ill these past few days, so .!.she was staying at home.

Her sentence calling her ‘sister in law’ was very smooth, Zhuo Qing actually stared blankly, she was somewhat uneasy. Lou Xi Yan was very comfortable, his face was smiling constantly, his appearance was rather joyful.

Finished listening Lou Xi Wu’s words, Zhuo Qing suddenly recalled someone, and said: “Su Mu Feng came by this afternoon.”

Lou Xi Wu nodded her head, but immediately said: “Gongzi only said a few sentences and then left afterwards, there was nothing special.” They could not suspect Su Gongzi, right, Gongzi was absolutely impossible to be the murderer ah!

Even though Zhuo Qing did not believe that Su Mu Feng was the murderer, but since this was a recorded statement, they should be thorough and detailed to explain the circumstances as much as possible, who was the murderer, the police should investigate this issue.

Dan Yu Lan’s expression flashed through a trace of radiance, he asked: “Was

Miss Lou also learning the zither with Su Gongzi?”

Also? The used of this word was subtle, Zhuo Qing and Lou Xi Yan felt peculiar, the two of them looked one glance at each other, but they remained calmed and collected.

Lu Jin recorded the statements while he did not forget to observe the three people's expressions, Prime Minister Lou deserved to be called Prime Minister Lou, he could detect keenly that this one word was distinct. Furthermore, his wife must not be an average person either, otherwise how could she deserve him, right.

Lou Xi Wu did not find anything differently, with a self serving manner, she answered: “En, just started to learn about one month ago, Gongzi only gave me four lessons, he came to say goodbye today.”

“Why did you not continue learning?”

Lou Xi Wu flatted her mouth, helplessly answered: “He said that the capital was not peace and safe recently, it was inconvenient to go out and come into the Prime Minister's manor, so he would not come.” She actually still wanted to continue to learn the zither with Su Gongzi.

Dan Yu Lan surveyed from a distance and nodded his head, good, he reckoned that she would not remember anything today. At this time, Cheng Hang also came out from the inner room, he actually went to the direction of the wooden door. Squatting to examine properly for a while, then walked to Dan Yu Lan's back with a dignified complexion.

Slightly leaning his head, Dan Yu Lan asked in a low voice: “Cheng Hang, are we done?”

“We are done, Daren.” Cheng Hang was holding several items of small stuffs that were covered inside the plain handkerchiefs on his hand, he unfolded them on the desk. There were some unfinished burned sandalwood, one silk handkerchief, also some bits of dust that came from nowhere, Cheng Hang asked: “Prime Minister Lou, can I take these items with me?”

Lou Xi Yan nodded his head: “Certainly.”

Dan Yu Lan got up, he cupped his hand to greet one more time: “We have

disturbed Miss Lou, if we still need any help from Miss, we will come again to disturb you.”

Lou Xi Wu also got up to return his greeting, she answered in a low voice: “Dan Daren is too courteous, I also hope that I can help to bring the murderer to justice soon.”

Zhuo Qing secretly observed Dan Yu Lan’s complexion all along, his brows were locked up deeply from the beginning to the end. It appeared that he lacked his former days’ confident and relaxed manners, Zhuo Qing could not help to ask: “Does Dan Daren have a grasp on this case?”

Dan Yu Lan’s footsteps were slightly sluggish, candidly shook his head, he asked with a heavy voice: “What kind of advice can Madam give?”

Zhuo Qing shook her head and answered: “Without seeing the corpse beforehand, I do not have any advice, but, I can give you one suggestion.”

Dan Yu Lan was somewhat looking forward to it and he looked at Zhuo Qing, he also hoped that this unusual woman could propose any useful suggestion, he was really under pressure from the case now.

Zhuo Qing smilingly answered: “There is one person who can help you to solve this case as soon as possible.”

“Miss Qing Mo?” He remembered, Qing Mo’s agility when they handled the gold case, she was indeed capable to see clearly, capable to analyze, extremely a strong woman.

Zhuo Qing nodded her head and answered: “Solving this kind of serial murder case, she is relatively an expert.” She remembered that Gu Yun took over to investigate not less than five similar cases, she also helped the personnels from the other provinces, so if Gu Yun was here, she should be able to provide some more feasible directions to investigate.

“Miss Qing Mo went to Xi Bei city (Northwest), I am afraid that Dan mou can not ask her.” He already thought about this, but Qing Mo was a person from the General’s manor after all, moreover.....

Lu Jin said in a cold voice: “Even if that Miss Qing Mo is willing, I am afraid there is not enough time.”

“Why?” Zhuo Qing was puzzled by his statement.

Cheng Hang coldly groaned, annoyingly answered: “The quickest time for the messenger pigeon to fly from here to Xi Bei city wall is 4 days, then wait for Miss Qing to pack up her luggage, and ride in the chariot to arrive at the capital, I am afraid it will be twenty days later. The final deadline at that time will be less than ten days, even if Miss Qing Mo is the expert in dealing with this case, it will be impossible for her to solve this case in such a short time, a slow remedy does not address the current emergency.”

Dan Yu Lan actually did not appear to be excited, but the faces of the two young people were filled with anger, Zhuo Qing looked at Lou Xi Yan and asked: “What final deadline? What will happen if they pass this deadline?”

Lou Xi Yan looked one glance at Dan Yu Lan, he sighed and said: “The Emperor gave Dan Daren a deadline, the case has to be solved in one month, if this case still can not be solved, he will be removed from the case, then he will be sent to prison..... for three years.” But the Emperor did anything like this, it was really to force Dan Yu Lan, but this case appeared like this before the celebration, if it was not solved, how could Qiong Yue’s prestige survive?!

Unable to solve the case, and he would be imprisoned!! How could it be like this?! Lou Xi Yan and Dan Yu Lan’s expression informed her that Yan Hong Tian could be like this!! Her heart was cursing at Yan Hong Tian’s eight generations, but Zhuo Qing was fully aware, this would not solve the problem either!

Thinking, Zhuo Qing asked: “From Bei city to the capital, how many days can one arrive in the quickest time?”

Cheng Hang answered: “Even for a young and vigorous man, with an excellent martial art, full speed on the horse, without any rest, he will need five days.”

Reaching out to take the writing brush from Lu Jin’s hand, then taking out a white paper, and writing several small words, after she finished writing, she gave it to Lu Jin, and said: “Immediately send this letter through the messenger’s pigeon, nine days later, she will be able to arrive here! ‘Icey, thorny case, quickly return! Nancy.’ (Note that the words ‘Icey’ & ‘Nancy’ are already in English).

Lu Jin looked at that few simple words on his hand, there was half of the words that he did not know, not to mention that there was some code words. Even if

that Miss Qing Mo wanted to hurry to come back, she was a girl, it was impossible that she could return hurriedly ah!

Cheng Hang immediately groaned his disbelief and said: "This is impossible!"

Zhuo Qing confidently smiled and answered: "Whether or not some other people can do it, I do not know, but she can." She had experienced Gu Yun's craziness, to reach her target, her adrenaline could rise rapidly and no average person could imagine this situation! If someone could achieve returning within five days, she surely could do it, she could not be sure if she could see her in four days!

And she chose to use each other English's names to write the letter, the main reason was because the messenger pigeon would pass the letter on. The calligraphic style that she used to write the letter was very lacking, there was only symbols from the writing brush. Even she almost could not see the messy words, so that Yun would believe that this was her letter, the best distinguish words would be the English words.

The people who were present could see Zhuo Qing's full confidence, but they did not believe her, Zhuo Qing did not feel like explaining either, when they saw the person at that time, they would naturally believe her!

Slightly moving to the side, Zhuo Qing said to Lou Xi Yan's ear: "Xi Yan, I want to examine the corpses, you rest early, you will be busy tomorrow, I will return in a moment."

Lou Xi Yan said with a low sigh: "Your health is only a little good, it is already very late, you can go tomorrow, ok." But he knew that she still wanted to go, sure enough, Zhuo Qing insistingly said: "I am in good spirits, there is Mo Bai to keep me company, you do not need to worry about my safety. If the corpses are left for too long, we will lose more information, I want to see the corpses as soon as possible!"

Lou Xi Yan slowly nodded his head and answered: "Fine, ok." If he did not allow her to go, she would probably not go, but according to her temperament, she would surely be angry, then she would rush out of the Prime Minister's manor early tomorrow morning.

Zhuo Qing secretly relaxed her breath, she was really somewhat anxious, if Xi

Yan would not allow her to go, unexpectedly, he actually agreed, happily she mumbled in his ear: “Your tolerant will make me unable to help myself to love you even more, good night!”

“Dan Daren, can I go to examine the corpses now?” Finished speaking, Zhuo Qing turned around to walk to Dan Yu Lan, however, Lou Xi Yan was absentminded because of the words that she said. Recovering, he could not help to break into laughter, she seemed to already know how to pacify him.

“Now?” Dan Yu Lan was also alarmed, it was already passed zishi now (between 11 pm-1 am), carefully looking one glance at Prime Minister Lou, he only saw that his expression was the same as always. Dan Yu Lan did not say anything either, then he faced Lou Xi Yan with his cupped hands and said: “Prime Minister Lou, this small official says goodbye, if Madam wants to go, we can go, ok.”

Zhuo Qing was following Dan Yu Lan’s party to leave, Lou Xi Wu finally recovered, then foolishly looked towards Lou Xi Yan, she asked: “Elder brother, why is sister in law so interested with the corpses this much?”

Lou Xi Yan kept silent, because he also wanted to know.

Qing-er was very familiar with the corpses, unexpectedly, her specialty level was higher than Dan Yu Lan, she could not simply be interested with autopsy to achieve this. Furthermore, there was Qing Mo, that woman was not only an ordinary intelligent woman either, Qing-er and her affections appeared to be very good, and were also very familiar, it did not resemble the kind that Qing Feng was familiar either. He had this kind of feeling, that Qing-er’s so called amnesia was only an excuse, so should he investigate about this, or wait until she was willing to tell him about this?!

Lou Xi Yan was lost in thought.....

Sian’s notes:

Oh oh.... our foxy and smart LXY is finally suspicious that ZQ may not be Qing Ling after all. I’m so curious if ZQ will tell LXY the truth. I really hope that she will...

# Record of Washed Grievances (By Qian Lu) Chapter 88: The Missing Hearts In The Women's Corpses

Warning: there was some details of the deaths that I found it to be disturbing when I was translating this chapter and they might be disturbing for some readers too so prepare yourselves. Nothing gory but the thought of what the women went through was kind of disturbing to me. And sorry for another annoying cliffhanger... Over 3,250 words.

This chapter was translated by Sian for <https://nuttymisprocrasinating.wordpress.com> only and edited by Din2.

This was the third time Zhuo Qing went to the Ministry of Justice's prison to perform an autopsy, perhaps this was the result of the recommendation that she gave to Dan Yu Lan from the last time. This time, the inside of the autopsy room seemed to be colder than the last two times, there were three women's corpses on the autopsy table, their complexions were relatively paler when compared to a normal corpse. Their bodies did not have any wound, except for the chest that had an extremely thin cut, the corpses were spotlessly white as jade.

Zhuo Qing had a thick fur coat on her shoulder, with slim hands and sharp eyes, she earnestly examined every skin and flesh on the corpses, even including the scalps, inside of the fingers and other areas like that, she did not let anything slip by. Dan Yu Lan, Lu Jin, and Cheng Hang were surrounding her, Mo Bai was standing not too far away behind Zhuo Qing, he unexpectedly did but wear any thick clothing, but he did not look shivering either, only his cold look could be comparable to the ice cold room.

Lu Jin and Cheng Hang were very curious towards Zhuo Qing, Daren's attitude was very respectful towards her and he also believed in her, and she was cool headed when she was facing the corpses, her autopsy procedure was very skilled to a certain degree, she was absolutely an expert.

This time, Zhuo Qing did not explain the autopsy like before, she was rather looking at the three corpses afterwards, raising her head, she looked one glance

at the three men who were by her side, and said: "You can say the conclusion of your autopsy first."

Lu Jin looked towards Dan Yu Lan, after he saw that he was nodding his head lightly, he spoke out his opinion with a clear voice: "The three deceased were women, the time of deaths of the three people were different, but the whole bodies did not have any other scar, all had a five inches long knife incision along the left side of their chests. The edge of the wounds was even, sleek, the knife blade should be extremely sharp, according to the circumstances of the wounds, we speculated that the murder weapon should be a double edged dagger between six to seven inches in length. The causes of death were the murderer's incisions when he removed the hearts, then it resulted in death. The deceased bodies did not leave any struggling scar, their facial expressions were extremely in panic, I believed that they were being paralyzed by the acupuncture points, they could not move or shout, but they were actually clear headed, so these kind of frightened expressions could appear."

"What is your name?"

Lu Jin failed to understand the reason why (she asked his name), but he still answered: "Lu Jin."

Smilingly looking at Dan Yu Lan, Zhuo Qing asked: "Your student?"

"En."

Fairly nodding her head satisfyingly, Zhuo Qing smilingly said: "A very good prospect." He looked to be about 20 years old, right, with the autopsy resources at the ancient time, he could have this kind of opinion, she thought it was pretty good. The reason why she did not explain immediately today, it was not because she wanted to listen to what they were saying, she actually wanted to know, the autopsy skills at the modern time and ancient time, how much was the disparity if it existed at all. Even though she did not dare to say, the autopsy level at the ancient time was higher by a lot compared to the previous one, but she also hoped to be able to use her own knowledge to pass it on to them as much as possible, and to influence their autopsy views.

Holding back her smile, and looking at Lu Jin's young face, Zhuo Qing lowered her voice to say: "With regards to those words that you said a moment ago, I

basically agreed, but there were two points that I would question. The first point, the cause of deaths of the deceased, I believed it was because they lost too much blood and they went into shock and dead (from hemorrhagic shock). That was a great amount of blood loss that could not be replenished in time and it lead them to die.” In order to make them understand the meaning of going into shock, Zhuo Qing immediately added the final sentence.

Once she finished saying, Cheng Hang immediately refuted: “Their hearts were removed, why could it not because they lost their hearts so they died?” Even though she was very cool headed when she was facing the corpses a moment ago, he also believed her autopsy ability, but he was more convinced with Lu Jin’s autopsy method. Except for Daren, he had not seen any better coroner than Lu Jin.

“The people’s hearts will stop pulsing in a quarter hour (see 1), it is not sufficient to cause any death, and within that quarter hour, the artery will rupture, and cause a great amount of blood loss and can cause death. Was there or was there not a great amount of bloodstains at the crime scenes for these murder cases?” Even though she did not go to the crime scenes, but the corpses appeared to lose a great amount of blood that caused their pale looks afterwards and their internal organs were withered, it was already sufficient to prove the situation at that time.

Cheng Hang nodded his head: “On the beds, on the floors, they were completely covered by blood, what were so strange about the crime scenes that had so much blood for these murder cases?”

“After the people died, the human body stopped to circulate the blood, the function of the artery also stopped, if the quantity of blood was not much, one could only see the injury part after death, and the large pool of blood would not appear that it sprayed and splashed a great bloodstains. So much bloodstains appeared at the crime scenes for these murder case, it could be explained that after their hearts were removed, all of the deceased were still alive, until the blood circulations were finished.” (Yikes... poor women what a horrible deaths).

The clear and cold voice of a woman was indifferent when she explained throughly and in detailed, Cheng Hang did not understand these too much. Looking towards Lu Jin, Lu Jin’s complexion was solemn, and he was staring at

the corpse in a daze, and Daren also had a pondering appearance, Cheng Hang also did not dare to say anything again. Thinking, Zhuo Qing simply walked to the side of the corpse, she said to Lu Jin who was still baffling: "Come here."

Lu Jin had not yet recovered, but his legs already walked involuntarily to Zhuo Qing's side.

"In general, the bleeding while one is living, the blood coagulation will occur soon after, but the bleeding after death, the blood will not solidify. Furthermore, the bleeding while one is living, there is a cellulose (see 2) net that will separate out the tissue to bind it closely, it can not be removed by any water cleaning, but since the blood will not solidify during the bleeding after death, then it can be removed by any water cleaning." Using the glove on the side to rub the ice strongly, the glove was somewhat moistened. Zhuo Qing lightly rubbed the deceased's wound, the dry blood did not have any change. Using her hand once again to smear the scarlet color near the deceased's waist, lightly caressing, the color of blood already changed into light color.

Lu Jin finally understood, this woman who was a half head shorter than him, she could teach him the method on how to distinguish the blood, although he did not know about these stuffs before, but she already used a demonstration to tell him. Hurriedly cupping his hands to greet, Lu Jin thankfully said: "Many thanks to Madam who is giving this advice."

Zhuo Qing did not pay any attention to his gratitude, after seeing that he already understood it, Zhuo Qing continued to say: "The second point, you said that the deceased was hit by a pressure point so she could not move, I felt that the probability was unlikely."

Why? Lu Jin and Cheng Hang's eyes definitely showed doubtfulness, Zhuo Qing did not wait until they asked either, with a cold voice, she said: "In general, speaking about hitting a pressure point, the principal of the acupuncture point should be hitting a somewhat weak part of the human body and sensitive place, to make her numb, limp and painful, maybe in pain and difficult to endure. Losing the ability to resist, the deceased maintained this kind of posture from the start to finish and until she died, if it was because of the hit on the pressure point, so she could not move, her body would stay in the acupuncture point position, the blood circulation would surely be affected. The area where she was

hit by a pressure point would show a retention of the blood vessel, and it could form a livor mortis (the bluish color after death). You looked at the several livor mortis on the deceased, because the blood losses were excessive, the colors of their livor mortis were relatively light, but they only occurred on their backs (near the torso areas).”

Lu Jin lightly lifted up the corpse of the recent Princess who died, there was really only one stripe that appeared on her back, then he laid the body down lightly, Lu Jin already convinced with Zhuo Qing’s explanation, spontaneously asked: “Did Madam find out anything more?” Perhaps, she could look at more areas that they had not looked before.

“The murderer towards the human organs, especially at the heart position, it was very distinct, from looking at the wound, the first time he put down the knife, he chose the position on the left side of the clavicle, between the midline and the fifth intercostal junction of the ribs, this was precisely the heart position, the cutting edge of his knife did not even leave a mark on the rib, he directly cut the cardiovascular off, then using his hand to penetrate the rib and extract the heart.”

This level of skill, it was similar like a butcher but it was impossible, even an ordinary physician could not accomplish it either. Pointing at the third corpse whose eyes were opened big, Zhuo Qing slightly shook her head, and said: “I actually did not find any more stuff, only some questions, the whole cases were the most peculiar things, even the deceased’s facial expressions were extremely frightened, but their bodies did not leave any scar, even the inside of their fingernails did not have any bit of tissue. This explained that the deceased were completely in awaken states, but they did not even struggle either. This was very strange, furthermore, the murderer took their clothes off completely, but he did not assault them, what was the reason that the murderer did this?”

Dan Yu Lan’s thought also lingered about these questions all along, perhaps, if they could resolve these questions, then they could manage to understand it thoroughly, what was the murderer’s technique in committing these crimes after all. The three dead bodies appeared to be conscious and awaken, and when Miss Lou suffered the attack tonight, she actually did not have any idea about it. The murderer converted his skill to kill people, or could it be possible that there were

more than one murderer?!

Zhuo Qing's voice raised suddenly, gazing at Lu Jin, solemnly said: "Lu Jin, while you were explaining the autopsy a moment ago, you did not mention whether or not the deceased was sexually assaulted, this was a very big shortcoming. You may feel that male and female are different, but as a coroner, you should abandon this burden, and do the thing that you should do."

"Yes." Lu Jin slightly lowered his head, with regards to her words, he could not refute anything, he had actually examined it, but he obstructed it from Madam because she was a woman, so he did not explain it intentionally, who would have thought that she harbored the thought, it actually gave him anxiety.

The time was late, she had seen the corpses, so Zhuo Qing took the gloves off, and said: "Dan Daren, the time is not early, I will leave first, with regard to the matter of this case, I will look for you tomorrow at the government office to explain in detail, ok." She was afraid if she returned very late, Lou Xi Yan was probably anxious about her. Zhuo Qing secretly sighed softly, when did she start caring about him like this, was this the heart having to bind one's feeling?! It seemed it was not too bad.

"Madam, please."

Zhuo Qing nodded her head, walked over to the outside door, Mo Bai's tall and arrogant silhouette followed behind her.

Zhuo Qing's silhouette disappeared outside, Cheng Hang could not help to ask finally: "Daren, she, what is her background after all?"

Still so young, but she unexpectedly understood about the corpse like this, moreover, when she rebuked Lu Jin a moment ago, that imposing manner, it really made people not dare to answer back, this woman, what kind of a person after all ah?

Facing the anxious and impatient pair of eyes, the eyes that were filled with abundant interest, Dan Yu Lan forced a smile and shook his head, he did not know either, what her background was after all.....

The Ministry Justice's prison was not too far from the Prime Minister's manor, Zhuo Qing and Mo Bai walked back, the moon already slanted to the west, the

street was clear, cold and tranquil. Mo Bai walked about 3-4 meters behind her, and did not travel alongside her, Zhuo Qing suddenly stopped her footsteps, turned around to look towards Mo Bai whose complexion was always cold and congeal, directly asked: "Mo Bai, if you have any word that you want to say to me, just say it, ok."

Mo Bai stopped his footsteps, for a very long time, he finally spat out several words coldly: "You should not leave the Prime Minister's manor when it was already so late."

Zhuo Qing raised her eyebrows, she thought that he would hold back and not say anything, but he was willing to say it, it was actually a good thing. Approaching Mo Bai, Zhuo Qing returned to ask: "You feel that as a woman, I should not walk around anywhere this late, since I am already one of the person in the Prime Minister's manor. I should take into consideration the Prime Minister's manor and Lou Xi Yan's identity, and obediently staying at home, is that the meaning of your words?"

Mo Bai's face was expressionless, he could not shake or nod his head. Zhuo Qing anticipated earlier that he would respond like this, she did not pay any attention either, with a self serving manner, she replied: "I have my own integrity to deal with the manner and principal, every matter has a sense of priority, if I get married with Lou Xi Yan, I will naturally act as the Prime Minister Madam's identity as much as possible when I do my things, but it is impossible to change the way I handle my affair. If Lou Xi Yan can not accept this, or I can say, the Prime Minister's manor can not accept this, I do not care if they throw me out, I, myself, know what I am doing."

The way these two people got along, understood each other mutually and they showed tolerance to each other in order to compromise on the course of event, she knew this, but she, herself could not compromise some stuffs. Finished declaring her position, Zhuo Qing looked towards Mo Bai's complexion that became solemn and not knowing what to think, smilingly said: "Do you have any other word that you want to say?"

The serene depth of his blue eyes looked at the person in front of him who adhered to perseverance, unpretentious woman without a mask, Mo Bai's complexion was cold and detached like before, his voice already restored

normally like in the past, and he answered: “No.”

Satisfyingly nodding her head, Zhuo Qing’s mood appeared to be good, smilingly said: “Very good, if you have any dissatisfaction with me in the future, you can raise it out without any hesitation. If it is my fault, I will correct it as much as possible. If I can not accept your point of view, I will explain it to you.”

However, Mo Bai could not help but frowned, he answered: “Madam does not need to explain any affair with me.” She was the master, he was the servant, she only needed to command, and did not need to explain.

“I feel that it is very necessary.” Zhuo Qing still wanted to continue to say something, Mo Bai’s expression was gloomy suddenly, lightly leaped forward to protect her behind him, retreating all the way, both of them retreated to the corner of the wall.

Mo Bai’s tall silhouette obstructed all of her line of sights, she could not see Mo Bai’s facial expression, but she could also sense that Mo Bai’s muscles were nervous all over. The ordinary cold and detached appearance became more and more colder now, Mo Bai’s peculiar made Zhuo Qing knew that there might be a danger that would be arriving next.

Sticking closely to the wall, Zhuo Qing held her breath, listened carefully, she could hear the sound of light and somewhat confused footsteps, the moonlight shined upon, a few long shadows were coming quickly towards the direction where they were with the most speed.....

Sian’s notes:

1. Ok, I think in the past, I translated the words 一刻钟 (yi ke zhong) as a quarter hour (in a way 15 min just like our modern time) but I just realized that it was misleading since the ancient time used a 2 hrs time so a quarter hour in ancient time would be 1/2 hr instead of 15 min. But for consistency, I’ll probably stick with a quarter hour so I don’t have to change the term in the previous chapters. Hehehe... However I want to point it out to you that a quarter hour in this book will equal to 1/2 hour our modern time.

2. “cellulose [sel’u-lōs]: a carbohydrate forming the skeleton of most plant structures and plant cells. It is the most abundant polysaccharide in nature and is the source of dietary fiber, preventing constipation by adding bulk to the stool.

Good sources in the diet are vegetables, cereals, and fruits.” That was the definition that I got from Wikipedia about what cellulose was. As to what the relationship between that and ZQ’s conversation about how the women were bleeding, I have no idea... Natalie may be able to explained it better since she’s a medical expert?